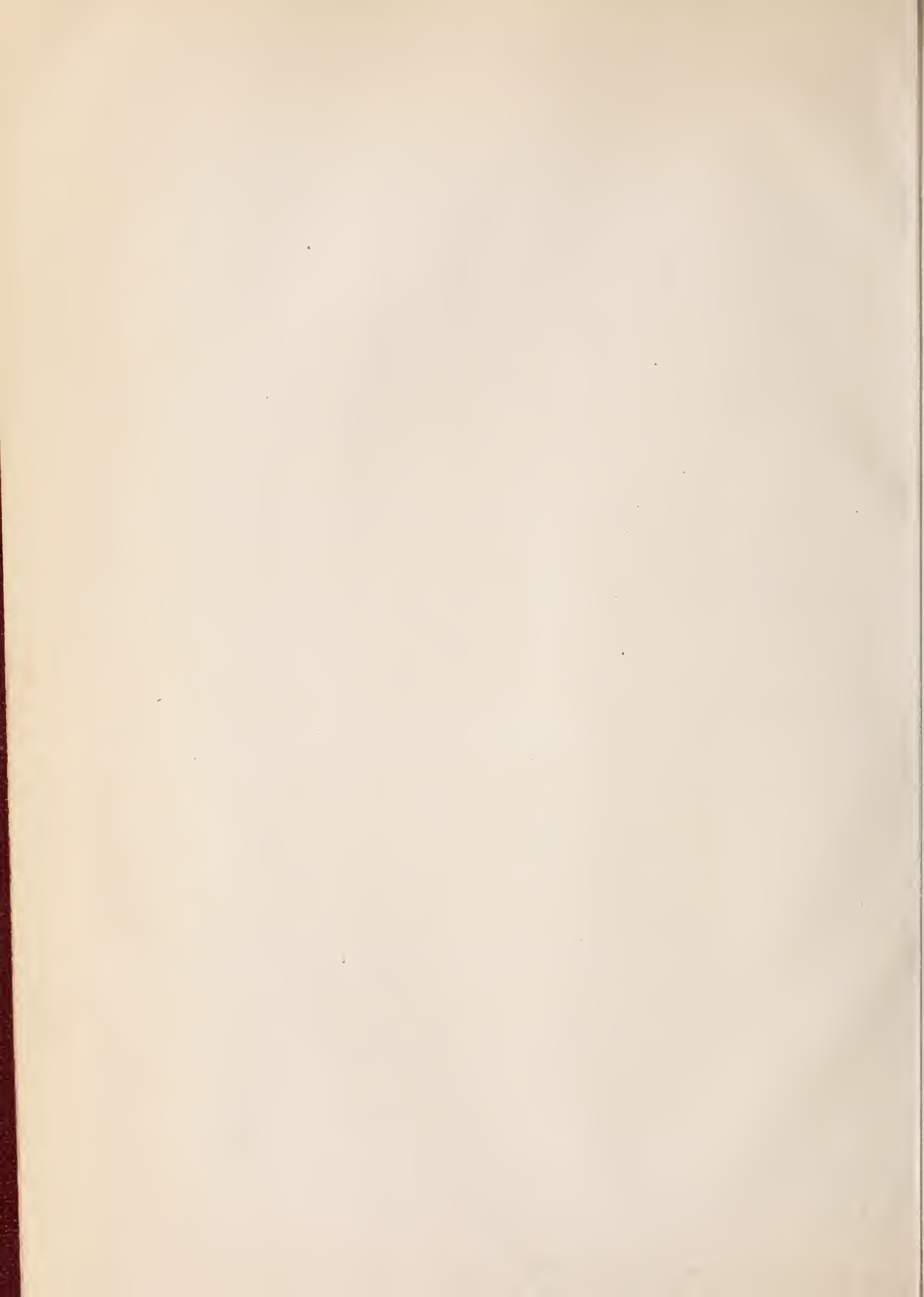


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# DAILY DIGEST

pared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXII, No. 1

Section 1

January 3, 1939

**ROAD FUNDS ASSIGNED** Allocation of \$135,000,000 of federal-aid highway funds to the states for road improvement and grade-crossing elimination in the next fiscal year have been announced by Secretary Wallace. The funds were authorized by the federal law and consist of \$100,000,000 for highways, including extensions through cities; \$15,000,000 for secondary or feeder roads; and \$20,000,000 for eliminating grade crossings. The highway funds are to be matched by the states, but those for grade-crossing work are available without matching. (New York Times.)

**VEGETABLE AND FRUIT TARIFFS** The Interstate Commerce Commission has suspended for investigation tariffs filed by railroads proposing to increase estimated weights on shipments of vegetables and deciduous fruits, says an Associated Press report. Many protests were made to the commission against allowing the increases to become effective January 1. Complaints were received from all parts of the country, but principally from Florida, California, the Rio Grande Valley of Texas, Utah, Idaho, Minnesota and the Dakotas. Vegetables and deciduous fruits are shipped on estimated weight per box, package or sack, and not on actual weight.

**MD. FOREST RESEARCH** The Farm Security Administration says it recently gave a tract of 800 acres to the U.S. Forest Service for the establishment of a forest research station near Parsonsburg, Wicomico County, Maryland, says a report in the Baltimore Sun. The Allegheny Forest Experiment Station, located at Philadelphia, is in charge of the project. This will be the only station devoting full facilities to the study of forest products in Maryland and will be the center for research in various types of pine, principally the loblolly, in the central Atlantic region.

**SMITH HEADS CROP INSURANCE** The board of directors has announced appointment of Leroy K. Smith, Nebraska wheat grower and farm leader, as manager of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. Before coming to Washington early this year to serve as coordinator with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Smith had served as chairman of the Nebraska State Grain Board. (Washington Post.)



Farming in January Harper's contains "The TVA and the Utilities"  
Tenn. Valley by Richard Hellman. The author says in one paragraph:

"The principles of good farming and the urgent need of it in the valley are well known to the Authority, to the agricultural experiment stations and to the Department of Agriculture in Washington. But the farmer must know it, too, and then practice it. Pamphlets? He could have had tons of pamphlets, for years. What he needs is a demonstration. So a group of Boone County will meet with the county agricultural agent and perhaps representatives of the state land grant college, the United States Department of Agriculture, or the TVA. They will pick one of their group who will undertake to operate his farm to the best advantage. TVA will give him its metaphos (or 3-superphosphate) free, f.o.b., and the county agent will help him along with guidance. Everybody, the skeptic and the sheep, is going to watch how his farm works out. If it is successful, some will take over the new methods quickly, others more slowly. It is surprising to see how widespread such cooperation can become in just five years. 'An airplane trip from Chattanooga to Muscle Shoals will still show many fields marked by spreading gullies, but the curving lines of terraces are already so numerous that they appear to be the chief characteristic of all the unforested land.'"

Harper's also contains "The Strange Ways of Allergy" by George W. Gray, who says that "the agriculturists have a stake in the subject of allergy, and two years ago the U.S. Department of Agriculture established a research laboratory in this field under the direction of Dr. Henry Stevens."

BBS Progress Seventeen new units were added to the chain of national wildlife refuges under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Biological Survey in the last fiscal year, according to the annual report of the bureau, says a report in the New York Times. The total is now 248. Of these refuges, 232 are in the United States and comprise 7,557,221 acres. The other sixteen are in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. The wildlife restoration program, according to Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, chief of the bureau, is fundamentally one of land utilization. Unwise use of submarginal land, he asserts, has ruined many wildlife areas that had a greater value to man in the natural state; now many of these areas are being restored to this state. One result, it is reported, is an increase in the nation's waterfowl population for the third consecutive year.

Cargill Corn Kenneth S. Templeton, president of the Chicago Board  
Trading Case of Trade, said last week the board was gratified that the Secretary of Agriculture had taken action against Cargill, Inc. Mr. Templeton said: "The complaint...states that the Secretary 'has reason to believe' that the Cargill interests violated the commodity exchange act in attempting to manipulate prices and corner the September 1937 corn future..." (Associated Press.)



# Popularizing Science

Dr. Harlan True Stetson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, author of "Which Way Science?" in Scientific Monthly (January) says in one paragraph: "Fortunately, much has been done in recent years to 'infiltrate' the doings of science into the reading of the general public. An increasing number of scientists are sharing with the rank and file the results of their labors, even at the risk that inadequate statements may be circulated by the press at the expense of a certain prestige among colleagues who fail to understand the need for popularization of science. There is indeed a need for far more popularization of science in still plainer language--not for the unintelligent but for the vast majority of intelligent people who make up the nation but to whom scientific terminology is as non-understandable as is the vocabulary of the medical profession to the architect or the engineer. Science, which depends for its existence upon public good will and, in the end, public financial support, can well afford to keep the world constantly informed of its achievements other than in technical language. Perhaps the day will come when every editor of a scientific journal shall request in addition to the technical manuscript a paraphrased summary in ordinary English recounting the significant results of each piece of research. This might incidentally help a scientific worker to evaluate the significance of his own contribution to the society in which he dwells."

The Chief of the Marine Division of the Weather Bureau, I. R. Tannehill, is author of a 9-page illustrated article in the same periodical--"The Recent Hurricane in New England."

# Quick Seed Testing

Saving months of waiting for tree seeds to be ready for germination tests, a new method of quicker testing worked out by Miss Florence Flemion at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, is expected to make corresponding savings in money for tree nurseries where young trees are grown by millions for shelterbelts, forest plantings, parks and street use, says a Science Service report. Seeds submitted to germination tests at present often require refrigeration at low temperatures for from two to six months. Miss Flemion's method eliminates this long wait by stripping off the seed coats and putting the naked embryos found within to the test conditions. In from three to ten days dead embryos begin to decay, while living ones show signs of stirring life.

# Trends in Traps

"Most every trapping season brings new traps," says the Farm Journal (January). "One has cushions of rubber on the trap jaws. Another is a fox trap with two coil springs. Another is a trap with a guard intended to thrust the caught animal in such position that it cannot gnaw, bite or twist off its leg and get away...A new method of disguising traps now being used by trappers consists of dipping traps in cold water paint. Meanwhile, the search goes on for more humane devices for trapping, and the American Humane Association announces the opening of its twelfth annual humane trap contest, with prizes totaling \$675."



**Production Credit Increases**      The cooperative production credit system for agriculture established in 1933 continued its fifth consecutive year of growth during 1938, according to F. F. Hill, Governor of the Farm Credit Administration. The 535 production credit associations which serve every agricultural county in the country made approximately 240,000 loans during 1938 for \$300,000,000, an amount about \$15,000,000 larger than the 1937 total. Interest on these short-term loans remained at 5 percent throughout the year. These associations have 263,000 members who have invested \$14,000,000 in voting stock in their associations. More than 20,000 additional persons, most of them former borrowers, hold non-voting stock amounting to \$300,000. Governor Hill pointed out that reserves in excess of \$11,000,000 have been set up by the associations as a protection to the investment of members in the associations. Losses and expected losses on the billion dollars loaned since 1933, however, amount to less than one-half of 1 percent of the total loaned.

**World Cotton Estimate**      Although downward revisions of estimates of both domestic and foreign production during the past month reduced the indicated 1938-39 total world supply of commercial cotton by 400,000 bales, the estimated world supply still is the largest in history, <sup>says</sup> the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. In addition to the recent reduction in the indicated total supply, the supply of cotton readily available in regular marketing channels was further reduced during the five weeks ended December 15 by an increase of 1,025,000 bales in the reported stocks of cotton pledged against government loans in this country, the bureau observed. (Wall Street Journal.)

**Midwinter Chick Broods**      O. K. Moore, writing in Everybodys Poultry Magazine (January) on midwinter brooding of chicks, reports:  
 "A Delaware poultry farms study shows that over a 3-year period, February-hatched chicks laid an average of 210 eggs; March-hatched, 191; April-hatched, 180; and May-hatched, 169. It was found, furthermore, that February-hatched pullets lay large eggs during the high-price period while spring-hatched birds do not. More eggs were likewise produced by the early birds during the high-price season. The average annual price received for eggs laid by the February, March, April and May groups was 31, 30, 27 and 25 cents respectively. The value of eggs produced per pullets was \$5.47, \$4.91, \$4.10 and \$3.61 for the four hatching dates. Similar results were secured by New Hampshire poultrymen since a study made by the New Hampshire station reveals that the value of eggs produced by early-hatched birds (January 1) was 43.7 cents per dozen; by medium-hatched (March 7) birds, 42.1 cents; and by late-hatched (May 7) birds, 39.4 cents."

**Corn Picker**      A piece of farm machinery trending towards smaller size is the corn picker. One manufacturer has now made a lightweight, low-cost picker for economical use by farmers with as little as 30 acres. This picker is mounted directly on tractor, is easily attached or removed, has rear delivery elevator, husks a single row. (Farm Journal, January.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXII, No. 2

Section 1

January 4, 1939

## RAILROAD PROBLEM

The "railroad problem" is one which "calls emphatically for the cooperation of the managements, security holders and employees of all types of carriers, shippers and other patrons and the government," the Interstate Commerce Commission contended in its fifty-second annual report to Congress, which was made public yesterday. "We have not undertaken to specify," the report said, "how the campaign shall be organized and directed or other details, believing that such matters can more appropriately be dealt with at other times and on other occasions, as the Congress may see fit to request our advice and assistance..."

## FOOD-DRUG LABELING

With the new regulations governing administration of the food, drug and cosmetic law now available, a steady increase in the volume of business placed by food and drug manufacturers for labels was forecast yesterday by Charles R. Cosby, executive secretary of the Label Manufacturers National Association. Mr. Cosby stated that in most cases canners and other manufacturers in the fields affected had anticipated the new requirements and by following developments closely had been able to make the necessary changes in advance to conform to the new regulations. (New York Times.)

## WILDLIFE LEGISLATION

A renewed demand for federal legislation against stream pollution came yesterday from a House committee studying wildlife conservation. In a report prepared for submission to Congress, Chairman Robertson of Virginia recommended a measure to accomplish the objectives of the so-called Vinson stream pollution bill, passed by the last Congress and vetoed by President Roosevelt. (A.P.)

## TVA POWER OPERATIONS

The Tennessee Valley Authority expects its power operations to be "out of the red" when it closes its books next June 30. The agency's annual report, released yesterday, estimated that TVA would show a \$300,000 profit on power, navigation and flood control in fiscal 1939. In 1940 profits are expected to exceed \$1,000,000, nearly all of which would come from the sale of electricity. Power operations showed a deficit of \$1,155,000 in the year ending last June 30, the report said, and a deficit of \$3,241,-373 in the five years of TVA's existence. (A.P.)



Nutritional  
Research

U. S. Egg and Poultry Magazine (January) contains an address by E. V. McCollum, Johns Hopkins University, on "Twenty Years of Nutritional Research." The concluding paragraphs say: "The fact is, I believe, fully established that a diet composed of a nucleus of milk and milk products, eggs, meats, fish, fruits and leafy vegetables, which provides adequate mineral elements and vitamins, and proteins which are so constituted as to increase materially the biological values of cereal proteins, and completed as respects calories by the necessary amounts of cereal foods, tuber and root vegetables, will support the best attainable nutrition for anyone not in a condition requiring medical care and special dietetic supervision. This means that there is a place for pure vitamins and their concentrates in clinical medicine, but not in the nutrition of the normal population. It is a self-evident fact, in the light of what we all know about present-day promotion of doctored foods and vitamin preparations, that constant vigilance and sustained instruction will be necessary in order to prevent great confusion arising in the minds of food consumers as to what they should buy and eat. Those industries which provide the nation with its 'protective foods,' the components of the nucleus of the diet recommended here, must support the necessary enterprise of keeping these facts before the women of the land. There are, of course, such agencies as the Bureau of Home Economics of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Extension Services of state universities and agricultural colleges, county agricultural agents, and teachers of home economics and of domestic science that are gradually and persistently impressing upon the minds of housewives the lessons based upon sound nutritional science. Each of the food industries should, however, continually support an educational organization which presents honestly and fairly the knowledge which we possess concerning the properties of all the foods which we grow and which are combined into our daily menus. Only by such means will the health of the nation be safeguarded."

Community  
Forests

Nelson C. Brown, author of "Community Forests Come of Age," in American Forests (January) reports that there are in America 1,500 community forests in the initial and formative stages of organization, aggregating about 3,000,000 acres. "This is a modest beginning, and a good one," he says, "particularly when it is considered that more than 146,000,000 trees have been planted on these properties. But what is ahead? There are at least 40,000,000 acres of submarginal, idle, erosive, gullied, or abandoned farm lands in this country, a part of which may well be put to productive effort on the outskirts of and beyond the real estate speculative districts of nearly every city, town or village. America should have at least 10,000 community forests with an aggregate area of from 20,000,000 to 30,000,000 acres. Community forests are properties owned or operated for forestry purposes by cities, villages, schools, counties and other political subdivisions. They are locally known as town forests, municipal <sup>forests</sup>, county forests, village woods, neighborhood <sup>woods</sup>, memorial forests, forest parks, school forests, and so on..."



**Cotton Classing** Organized cotton improvement groups may apply for free classification of their 1939 crops under the amended grade and staple statistics act, any time after March 15, 1939, but no later than September 1, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics announces. Regulations now require that improvement groups file their requests for the free classing and supplementary market news service, after their members have completed planting. "This requirement...will apply for 1939 so that each group may give detailed acreage figures upon which the bureau can plan its services for the 1939-40 season." A total of 311 organized groups representing 460,000 acres of improved varieties was approved by the bureau to receive the free classing and market news service during the current season, the first year in which the services have been available.

**Farm Price Index** Higher prices received by farmers for grain, fruit, truck crops and dairy products in mid-December largely accounted for the 2-point rise in the general level of local market prices of farm products during the past month, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics says. The mid-December index of prices received by farmers is reported by the bureau as 96 percent of prewar, compared with 94 percent in mid-November.

**Kansas Plants Million Trees** With more than one million trees planted by Kansas farmers on Soil Conservation Service demonstration erosion-control areas this year, a new record probably has been set in tree planting, says I. K. Landon, state coordinator for the Soil Conservation Service. Plantings include those made for gully control, as well as those made to stabilize soil on severely eroded hillside fields. In all cases, the trees were planted where they would be valuable in holding soil, and in most cases they were planted with the thought that they would produce farm income in the form of posts or fuel and possibly timber. Trees planted in largest numbers include black locust, hackberry, catalpa and Chinese elm. (Topeka Capital, December 19.)

**Pocket-Size Drawings** "Reducing drawings from original size to pocket size has been advocated for many years and practiced often enough to prove its practicability and value, yet it remains infrequent practice," says an editorial in Engineering News-Record (December 29). "E. L. Sanders' report of Colorado highway department methods (Reduction of Engineering Plant Cuts Operating Costs) is therefore valuable...That despite its advantages the system has not come into general use must be attributed to failure to realize that it requires few precautions beyond adequate line spacing and line strength plus properly proportioned lettering..."

**Sun Distiller** Dr. Charles G. Abbot, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution and authority on solar radiation, has just received a patent for a "solar distilling apparatus," a still designed to yield pure water from chemically contaminated water, using only the rays of the sun. (New York Times.)

**Feed Supply Situation**            Feed grain and hay supplies for the winter and spring feeding season are the largest in recent years in relation to the number of livestock in farms, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has reported. Supplies of high protein feeds are estimated about 15 percent smaller than supplies last year, but somewhat larger than in other recent years. Prospects indicate that more wheat millfeeds will be produced in the 1938-39 season than in any other recent year, with the exception of 1936-37. The quantity of wheat fed by farmers is expected to be larger than last year--the quantity of rye fed about the same. The 1938-39 hay supply, including the May 1 carryover, is estimated at 103,000,000 tons, or about 16 percent larger than last year and 14 percent above the 1928-32 average. "Supplies of hay per animal," the bureau said, "are estimated to be the largest in 30 years with the exception of 1927." (Press.)

**Migrant Farm Labor**            Closer coordination of federal and state employment services in providing jobs for farm labor is recommended in a study of the public employment system just completed under the auspices of the Public Administration Committee of the Social Science Research Council. Special stress is laid on the importance of the problem of controlling the huge migrations of harvest labor which each year trek across many states. Such control, according to the report, must be a long range objective toward which the federal and state employment services should work cooperatively. (Press.)

**Chemistry Progress**            Notable advances in pure chemistry in 1938 are listed in the annual review of progress in their field appearing in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, publication of the American Chemical Society. These advances include: production of carbohydrates on pure nickel oxide when it is irradiated with white light in the presence of carbon dioxide; synthesis of porphyrins, as a step toward ultimate synthesis of chlorophyll; detection of spectral lines, believed to be from the ninety-third element, in minerals containing uranium; introduction of a mercury vapor lamp of unusual brilliance; classification of X-ray diffraction characteristics of more than a thousand chemical compounds; perfection of a supermicroscope, using electrons instead of light rays; and formation of a coherent self-supporting film from clay minerals without the use of binders. (New York Times.)

**Silage Equipment**            Along with the molasses method for making silage of legumes and grasses have come new pieces of equipment. Of more than usual interest are the devices for mixing the molasses with the silage. One of these is an attachment that pumps the molasses into the silage as it is being cut. The molasses is fed into the space between the feed rolls. The pump fits on either side of the cutter, is driven by V-belt operating from knife and blower shaft. (Farm Journal, January.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXII, No. 3

Section 1

January 5, 1939

## DROUGHT IN WHEAT BELT

The Weather Bureau reported yesterday that drought conditions in the winter wheat belt have been growing progressively more serious, says a Washington report by the Associated Press. Lack of moisture was described as most acute in Oklahoma and Kansas and in some parts of Texas, Missouri and Iowa. The bureau reported the top soil was very dry in central and western Kansas and in great danger of blowing. Alternate periods of freezing and thawing in parts of the Ohio Valley last week affected grains adversely.

An Omaha report to the New York Times says the Nebraska wheat belt is suffering severely due to the fact that little or no rain has fallen in most of the wheat territory since the first half of September. A. E. Anderson, Nebraska state crop statistician, feels that the damage is not irreparable, and most of the crop could be saved by an early rainfall.

## ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION

Engineering construction contracts awarded last month, at \$339,250,000, were the highest for any December since 1927 and exceeded all monthly figures since June 1937, Engineering News-Record reported yesterday. December awards averaged \$67,850,000 weekly, a 25 percent gain over the November average and a 70 percent increase over December last year. Construction volume for all of 1936 totaled \$2,791,931,000, a 14 1/2 percent increase of 1937. (Associated Press.)

## NEW ZEALAND IMPORTS CUT

A Wellington cable to the New York Times says the first importers' licenses under the new New Zealand government trade control struck a severe blow to business today. All Japanese trade appears to have been barred. Other imports were reduced 20 to 80 percent. United States exports were cut as follows: hardware, 66 percent; metal goods, 79 percent. Some British products which are manufactured there were cut 50 percent.

## N.Y. POULTRY EXHIBITION

The New York Poultry Show opened yesterday in New York City with more than 6,000 farm, game and water fowl from all parts of the country--an increase of 1,000 birds over the number exhibited last year. J. C. Kriner, general superintendent, pointed out that there is an increase in the number of "large fowl", which indicates, he believes, a better commercial market for poultry and eggs, based upon the improvement in the size and quality of the basic breeds. (New York Times.)



Forest Service            In "Snow Motor," in American Forests (January) the  
Snow Motor            author, J. Lynn Wykoff, says that hitherto the Mount Jefferson area of Oregon's Cascade Range has been inaccessible in winter. "Thanks to the Federal Forest Service," he says, "access will be possible this winter. No longer need the Jefferson area--or any other normally winterbound forest area--be accessible only to hardy mountaineers on skis or snowshoes. In its Portland shops, where is developed all experimental machinery for the Forest Service, has been planned, designed and constructed an entirely new type of sled-pulling snow tractor--a tractor which surmounts all the difficulties and obstacles encountered in the winter-lashed forests and mountains. No type of terrain, no variance of snow depth, no sharp turns nor steep grades can stay the progress of this machine. Even big trees blown across the route only cause detours to right or left for a few hundred feet...Failures (in previous snow tractors) occurred principally in loss of traction under certain conditions and in the difficulty of steering in soft snow or on an icy crust. Basically, those two weak points determined the unique design of the new 'snowcat'. There is no possibility that it will 'ride' a high center or in other ways lose traction, for there is but one track, with but one set of full-width cleats...It required Forest Service engineers working under the supervision of James Frankland and R. F. Grefe nearly two years to work out all the details and construct the machine. Basic patents on the design of the track and the steering method are held by the Federal Government, available for use by any person or firm desiring to build a similar tractor..."

Egg Shell            L. W. Taylor and I. Michael Lerner, University of  
Thickness            California, are authors of "Breeding for Shell Thickness" in Nulaid News (December). They say in part: "It is well recognized that maintenance of a strong shell is primarily a nutritional problem...But the problem of shell thickness also has genetic as well as nutritional implications...At the California Station a study of the inheritance of proportion of shell has been carried on for several years. The data on the bird studies were obtained on eggs laid in the fall and winter of the pullet year of production, so that seasonal differences, which are known to exist, were not in any way involved. The first result was that it is possible by selection to establish a line of birds producing thick-shelled eggs, as well as a line producing thin-shelled eggs. In the first year of selection, the thick-shelled line produced eggs with 9.85 percent shell, while the eggs from the thin-shelled line contained only 9.14 percent shell. Comparable differences have now been maintained for four generations...Another important factor was that the greatest difference between the shell percentage of the two lines was in eggs laid in the second position of the clutch rather than in the first. While the thin-shelled line produced fairly adequate shells in the first egg of the clutch, the second egg as a rule showed much weaker shells. In the thick-shelled line, however, the birds apparently were able to maintain an adequate proportion of shell in the second and succeeding eggs of the clutch..."

Rural Youth  
Problems

The WPA reports that there are too many young persons on American farms to support themselves comfortably in agricultural pursuits. "Opportunities for young men in rural areas to acquire their own property and economic independence have materially decreased in recent years, because of a growing surplus of rural youth," research employes said in a 167-page booklet published by the work relief organization. Between 1920 and 1930, the report said, an average of 2,000,000 young persons were forced to migrate from farms to the cities to find employment. "Since 1930," it continued, "rural youth have moved to urban areas in considerably smaller numbers. "It is estimated that nearly 1,000,000 will migrate to cities between 1930 and 1940, while more than 1,000,000 others will remain home to become a surplus in rural areas. This increase would bring the number of young people on farms and in mining and lumbering camps and small industrial villages to more than 10,000,000." (Associated Press )

Conservation  
District

Successful Farming (January) contains a short article, with fourteen photographs, on the Papio (Nebraska) Soil Conservation District. "C.U. Cook, owner-operator of 422 acres in Washington County, Nebraska," it says, "had his share of soil erosion before he developed contour farming, strip-cropping, and other soil- and water-saving practices. Now, with water traps all over his farm, his losses have been practically eliminated because the pond, into which all but a few acres of his farm drains, has overflowed but once since December, 1936. Badly as Cook wants his own soil, he does not care to see fine alfalfa choked with over-wash silt. With some 390 other Washington County farmers, he has helped organize the Papio Soil Conservation District. By working together they hope to obtain expert help, materials, and equipment which would fall beyond the reach of individual farmers. Furthermore, sufficient area will be involved to protect lower lands from over-wash. The Papio Soil Conservation District is a legal organization set up by authority of a recent act of the Nebraska legislature...A conservation district must start with the farmers, 25 of whom sign a petition to the state soil-conservation committee. If there is enough evidence submitted at the subsequent hearing that a district is needed, the committee defines the boundaries of the district and gives notice of a referendum vote. A conservation district cannot levy taxes or assessments, nor can it issue bonds. It can spend only such funds as are allotted to it from Federal, state, or private agencies. Control is kept in local hands. Should farmers be dissatisfied with the program, any 25, after five years, may file a petition with the state committee for a vote to terminate their district setup."

Irrigation  
Measurement

A meter which can be easily transported and fastened on pipe line valves to measure the amount of irrigation water being delivered to any particular field has been developed at the University of California by C. N. Johnston and E. Christiansen, of the Division of Irrigation Investigations and Practice. The meter



## Irrigation Measurement (continued)

was first constructed and tested for use in experimental irrigation plots maintained by the College of Agriculture. Later it was improved and used for measuring friction losses in concrete pipe lines. It has certain desirable features which suggest that it might be used as a general all-purpose meter for use wherever water is delivered in concrete pipe lines. The meter can be set into operation simply by removing the lid of the pipeline valve and setting the machine on the valve. A six-blade impeller receives the force of the water passing through the valve and registers the flow on a dial which reads directly in acre-feet. The indicator hand makes one revolution for each one thousandth of an acre-foot, so that the flow can be measured simply by timing this hand. (California Cultivator, December 17.)

Grain for Dairy Cows      An editorial in Hoard's Dairyman (December 25) says: "In this issue will be found an article by Wilber J. Fraser (Illinois College of Agriculture) entitled 'Nine Pounds Grain a Day is Enough.' It is our opinion that this article will create considerable discussion...It has been a subject of debate for some time whether a cow that produces more than 50 pounds of milk a day should not be milked three times in order to prevent udder trouble, due to over-loading the udder. On most dairy farms it is not practical to milk three times a day. To avoid this and to have cows produce more than 50 pounds of milk a day, it has been generally held that larger udders should be sought, those large enough to hold at least 25, if not 35, pounds milk without danger of injury. Professor Fraser suggests limiting the concentrates to nine pounds a day in order to prevent injury to udders. It is well known that when the udder is over-distended, it is more susceptible to injury and disease. It is well known, too, that among the cows that have been heavily fed for a considerable period of time, their udders break down and there is loss of quarters. This modified system of feeding concentrates as suggested by Professor Fraser is not sustained by long periods of research, but the observations of those who have made good records, as well as his own long experiences, have led him to these conclusions."

Wheat Trading Decision      The Canadian Supreme Court, Ottawa, has recently rendered an important judgment on the subject of marginal trading in wheat, says a Toronto report in the Northwestern Miller (December 28). The court rules that this practice is not gambling within the meaning of the Criminal Code of Canada. The case at issue was one in which the Prudential Exchange Co., Lang, Sask., sought to recover \$9,000 from Sherman Edwards whose promissory notes for that amount were held against advances made in connection with transactions on the Winnipeg Grain Exchange. The trial judge and also the Saskatchewan Appeal Court had each held the money was obtained for gambling purposes and, therefore, could not be recovered at law. On appeal to the Supreme Court at Ottawa, these earlier decisions are reversed and Edwards is held liable.



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXII, No. 4

Section 1

January 6, 1939

## CORN ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS

The Agriculture Department announced yesterday an allotment of 41,239,659 acres for corn planting in the commercial corn area this year. This area comprises 586 major corn producing counties in 12 Midwestern States. The allotment, made under provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, compared with 40,495,537 acres last year. However, the commercial area in 1938 included 20 fewer counties. The department set the national corn acreage at between 94,000,000 and 97,000,000 acres--the same as last year. Farmers may comply with or ignore these allotments. However, only those who comply will be eligible for maximum benefit payments of between 14 and 15 cents a bushel on the normal yield of their allotments. Further, only cooperating farmers would be eligible for government loans on their grain, providing loans are made available. (Associated Press.)

## SPEAKING MACHINE

A machine which speaks, forming its own words in imitation human tones, was shown to scientists at the Franklin Institute yesterday. Its name is the "voder" and it is the first machine in the world to create speech. There is no "canned" talk, no recording. The voder resembles an oversize typewriter, with a pipe-organ keyboard. But instead of musical notes, the keys sound speech. It was built for exhibition at the great fairs this year in San Francisco and New York. The machine shows that the art and science of communications has advanced to the point where, if a person lost his voice, he could punch keys to say whatever he liked. (Associated Press.)

## IRRIGATION WATER CASE

New Mexico prepared yesterday to defend its claim to irrigation waters from the Gila River in the extreme southwestern part of the state, possibly before the United States Supreme Court, says a Lordsburg (N. Mex.) report by the Associated Press. Pending expected litigation, the state night before last opened, in defiance of an Arizona federal court order, the headgates on Gila irrigation ditches near Virden (N. Mex.) which had been padlocked more than two months. The Arizona Federal District Court ordered irrigation in the Virden district restricted to increase the supply of the San Carlos Indians in Arizona and in Coolidge Dam. Farmers in the Virden district complained that lack of water has left them without crops.



Embryo                      Science Digest (January) contains a condensation  
Seed Test                  from the Scientific Monthly of an article on hormones  
                                 and vitamins of plants by Dr. James Bonner, California  
                                 Institute of Technology. It says in part: "Perhaps the most general  
and most interesting test for plant growth factors is the 'isolated  
embryo' test. In this test, the embryo is removed from the seed so that  
it is unable to obtain either the food or the growth factors which are  
stored there. The aseptic embryo is then placed in a sterile flask con-  
taining nutrient solution. This solution contains sugar from which the  
plant is able to derive the energy necessary for its metabolism, and in  
addition the solution contains all of the necessary mineral salts. The  
embryo is allowed to develop in this medium in the dark. The embryo,  
under these conditions, is completely dependent on the medium both for  
food and for special growth factors. The ordinary foods are all sup-  
plied in amounts sufficiently large to be non-limiting. The growth of  
an embryo is then limited only by the special growth factors in the  
medium. Extensive experiments of this kind have been carried out with  
the isolated embryo of the pea. If no special growth factors are added  
to the nutrient solution, the embryo grows into a dwarf plant approxi-  
mately 1.5 cm. high. That it is able to grow at all is due to the fact  
that the embryo when it is cut from the seed already contains a certain  
amount of each specific growth factor. If vitamin B<sub>1</sub> is supplied, the  
root growth of the young plant is very considerably improved. The  
amount of vitamin B<sub>1</sub> which is necessary to bring about this effect is of  
the same order of magnitude as that normally present in the pea seed. At  
the same time, the stem growth is greatly improved..."

Grain Harvest              Farm Implement News (December 29) in an editorial on  
Machinery                  grain harvesting, says in part: "Now, as in no previous  
                                 year, the position of the twine binder and its companion  
machine, the grain thresher, is being challenged by the farm-size com-  
bine, one whose cutting capacity, power requirement and selling price  
place it in the class of equipment intended for the individual farmer on  
the average size farm...Any transition in grain harvesting procedure from  
binder-thresher to combine will call for more radical changes in farm  
practice than was the case in the change from reaper or harvester to  
binder. In the latter instance, grain was still cut in the same manner,  
at the same stage of development, and cured in the shock to the same de-  
gree. The binder merely did the same work with less labor and in less  
time. Combining however necessitates a change in the psychology of the  
farmer. When his grain is ripe for the binder, it isn't ripe for the  
combine. He must face the prospect of losing a crop by hail in order to  
obtain the advantages, if any, of combining. He must see his grain  
shatter in the field and think nothing of it, aware that the visible loss  
of shattering is likely to be much less than the unnoticed losses in  
binding, shocking and loading..."



January 6, 1939

Senate, Mr. Sheppard submitted the report of the Special  
January 3 Committee to Investigate Senatorial Campaign Expenditures  
and Use of Governmental Funds, "in two parts, part 1  
covering generally the committee's investigation...and part 2 comprising  
a summary by States and including miscellaneous cases." (Senate Report  
No. 1).

House, The House elected 33 of the 40 members of the Com-  
January 3 mittee on Appropriations. These are the members who were  
on the committee last year. The Committee on Wildlife  
Conservation submitted its report made pursuant to H. Res. 11, 75th Cong.  
(House Report No. 1).

The House received several annual reports, including: Federal  
Housing Administration; Federal Trade Commission; Tariff Commission;  
Tennessee Valley Authority; Acting Comptroller General.

Congress, Both Houses heard the President's annual message.  
January 4

The House received several annual reports, including  
those from: Electric Home and Farm Authority, Bonneville Administrator  
(H.Doc. 86). and Administrator of Veterans' Affairs (H.Doc. 11).

Aerial Farm "One of the most valuable contributions given to  
Photographs farmers of California, through the Agricultural Adjust-  
ment Act, is a series of aerial photographs and plane  
table-maps of their respective properties and farms," says Fred P.  
Roullard, Agricultural Commissioner, Fresno, in Pacific Rural Press  
(December 24). "Millions of acres of land have been surveyed and photo-  
graphed from points over 10,000 feet in the air. While the work has not  
been completed, the project has developed to such an extent that almost  
every intensified area in California, where farming is a major industry,  
has been photographed...Our government will furnish farmers with aerial  
photographs, which show conditions according to scale, at fifty cents  
each. The value of these pictures is of mutual interest to agricultural  
commissioners and growers...Our experience during 1915-1920 in making a  
study of phylloxera infestations in the San Joaquin valley, extended over  
the same area now covered with airplanes. Automobiles were used during  
that time...Over five years were taken for this one project, the same  
being covered within a week by airplane last year, averaging 450 square  
miles per day. Missing vines and trees are easily located, even to the  
point of making an actual count, together with an area approximately  
scaled within a reasonable limit of tolerance..."

Montana "Montana State College is enjoying a marked increase  
State College in student enrollment," says an editorial in Montana Farmer  
(January 1). "Total registration at the college increased  
from 1,243 in November, 1937, to 1,567 in November, 1938, an increase of  
324, or 26 percent...There are 684 first year students at the college

## Montana State College (continued)

now as compared with 481 last year. The state college also has an excellent record in placing its graduates. Most of the students who were graduated last June now have regular employment and in some lines of work the demand for state college graduates exceeds the number available. The college specializes in agricultural, engineering and home science courses."

Erosion Control Aids Yields      "The Soil Conservation Service announces the result of experiments in potato yields carried on by the Service and the New York College of Agriculture near Ithaca, since 1935," says Pennsylvania Farmer (December 31). "These results show that potatoes planted across the slope on the contour lost only 1-140 as much soil as potatoes planted up-and-down hill, and produced yields from five to fifteen percent higher. The tests were carried out on two plots of ground lying side by side. The slope and soil for each was the same. The same amount of fertilizer--six tons of manure and 300 pounds of superphosphate to the acre--was applied. Planting, cultivating, spraying and digging were done exactly the same way on each plot, except that one was on the contour and the other up-and-down hill... In 1935, a wet season in that part of New York, the contour planted potatoes lost only 202 pounds of soil to the acre while the up-and-down hill plot of potatoes beside it lost soil at the rate of 28,200 pounds to the acre. The contour plot yielded a 191 bushel-to-the acre average while the other plot was yielding 181 bushels. Results during the growing season this year, which was much dryer than the 1935 season, showed that about 11,000 pounds of soil to the acre was washed from the up-and-down hill plot. The contour plot lost no soil at all. The up-and-down hill plot produced 206 bushels to the acre, while the neighboring plot, planted on the contour, yielded 242 bushels to the acre. Dr. John Paul Jones, in charge of Soil Conservation Service work in the northeastern states, points out that the results from the Ithaca Experiment Station bear out unofficial reports from farmers and technicians in the Pennsylvania erosion control demonstration areas and other areas in the Northeast who say that yield increases have been noted when soil and fertilizer losses have been cut down."

Food Freezing Methods      Refrigerating Engineering (January) contains a paper by J. G. Woodroof, Georgia Experiment Station, on "Comparing Methods of Freezing Fruits and Vegetables". He says: "The immersion method of freezing, as used by R.B. Taylor, more nearly preserves the fresh qualities of the product than any other commercial method tested in our laboratories. The intensive study of methods of freezing, by examining the quality of the product produced, included samples of all commercial packs of fruits and vegetable available in the South, as well as a large number of packs not prepared in commercial quantities. Throughout the period of study more than 2000 measurements of ice crystals and 'ice crystal patterns' have been made, complete leakage tests were run on about 300 samples, 2000 firmness determinations or pressure tests were made and detailed color studies on six types of products were included. The products consisted of ten fruits and seven vegetables prepared by eight freezing methods..."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXII, No. 5

Section 1

January 9, 1939

## MERIT SYSTEM

The Civil Service Commission last night called for a "full and fair trial" for the merit system under the expansion program provided by President Roosevelt's two orders of June 24, says a report in the Washington Star. In its annual report the commission pointed to the improvements in personnel administration which now are possible. It again took issue with critics by reiterating that the non-competitive tests which will bring thousands of positions under civil service on February 1 will neither "perfunctory" nor result "in covering into the service a preponderance of appointees of the party in power." "The effectiveness of the new rules depends upon the continuing support of the Chief Executive and upon the provision to the commission of an adequate staff and funds to carry out the program authorized by the President," the report said. "The merit system should be given a full and fair trial..."

## SALT PRESERVES SWEET CREAM

How sweet cream can be stored and kept fresh for as long as two weeks without refrigeration by merely salting it is revealed in a patent granted to Owen E. Williams, of the U.S. Bureau of Dairy Industry, says a report in the New York Times. The discovery that 7 percent of ordinary table salt when added to sweet cream will prevent bacteria from turning it sour is of considerable importance to dairymen and creameries. Collections of cream from farmers and dairymen need not be made so often and refrigeration is eliminated. When the preserved cream is shipped in winter the salt acts as an anti-freeze. The salt is removed from the cream in a centrifugal separator. The cream may then be pasteurized. In taste and butterfat content it is like fresh cream. The inventor has dedicated his invention to the free use of the people of the United States.

## FIRST SOUTHERN NEWSPRINT MILL

Construction of the first newsprint mill in the South will be started at Lufkin, Texas, in a few days, says a report in the New York Times. Construction will provide work for about 700 men for about a year and thereafter many of them will be employed in the mill or in the logging operations. This mill, which will have a capacity of 150 tons a day, is hailed as the first step in the release of American newspapers from foreign newsprint. A group of newspapers in the South has contracted for the entire output of the mill for five years.

Engineering  
Society

The Field (London, December 17) announces the formation of the Institution of British Agricultural Engineers. The item says in part: "The engineer is playing an increasingly important part in agriculture all over the world...In France, there are 6,000 certificated and trained agricultural engineers...In Germany the number is stated to be considerably greater than in France, and Russia leads the way. Even in Spain there is a considerable number of qualified agricultural engineers, and at Madrid University there is a Chair of Electro-Farming. In the United States there is a Bureau of Agricultural Engineering within the Department of Agriculture and 'Engineering (Agr.)' is a familiar degree at the universities. There is also a flourishing American Society of Agricultural Engineers with its own journal...Among the proper activities of the agricultural engineer are visualised the investigation into the mechanical needs of the farmer, liaison with the implement and equipment industry, technical representation of manufacturing firms, employment in agricultural machinery factories, appointment to county councils to work in conjunction with agricultural organizers, appointments in the forestry services, private consultative services, and so on. All branches of agriculture are concerned..."

Wood Tick  
Vaccination

Successful "vaccination" against ticks, carriers of Rocky Mountain spotted fever and cause of another disease, tick paralysis, has been achieved by Dr. William Trager, of the Rockefeller Institute at Princeton, N.J. The "vaccinations" were made on guinea pigs, but presumably attempts will be made later to apply the method to dogs, cattle and even humans. The work, reported to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, furnishes, Dr. Trager said, the first experimental evidence that an animal like a guinea pig can become immune to a blood-sucking arthropod (insects, spiders and crustaceans are all arthropods) as well as to a disease germ. Dr. Trager's discovery shows also that the classical conception of immunity or resistance to disease germs can be extended to still another group of parasites, because, as in the case of germ-resistance or immunity, tick-resistance or immunity is a result of the defensive action of antibodies and white blood cells. (Science News Letter, January 7.)

Communications  
Facilities

The Federal Communications Commission has reported to Congress it is studying methods of organizing all communications facilities, radio, telephone and telegraph, so they can be used promptly and efficiently in any sectional or national emergency--such as national defense, floods, hurricanes, or fires. Chairman Frank R. McNinch, in a letter accompanying the commission's annual report, declared the period covered, ended June 30, last year, had been one of "significant developments and noteworthy progress both in American communications and in the administration of the commission." (Press.)



Senate, Both Houses received the Budget of the President  
January 5 for the fiscal year 1940, which was referred to the  
Committees on Appropriations (H. Doc. 29). Both Houses  
received the President's message recommending an appropriation of  
\$875,000,000 for relief for the remainder of the fiscal year 1939,  
which was referred to the Committees on Appropriations (H. Doc. 67).

Mr. Downey was appointed a member of the Golden Gate International  
Exposition Commission, and Mr. Clark of Idaho was appointed a member of  
the Joint Committee on Forestry.

The Senate received annual reports from several agencies, including  
the following: General Accounting Office, Interstate Commerce Commis-  
sion, Federal Trade Commission, Tariff Commission, Federal Surplus Com-  
modities Corporation, Tennessee Valley Authority, Electric Home and  
Farm Authority, and Forest Reservation Commission.

The Senate received a letter from the Acting Secretary of Agri-  
culture transmitting further information concerning payments of \$10,000  
or more under the agricultural adjustment programs (in response to S.  
Res. 265, 74th Cong.); ref. to Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

The Senate recessed until Monday, January 9.

House, The House received supplemental estimates for the  
January 5 Department of Agriculture totaling \$11,680,000, which  
were referred to the Committee on Appropriations, as  
follows: Fire protection and timber salvage in the White Mountain  
National Forest, New England, \$700,000; Fire protection and timber  
salvage in State, municipal, and private forests, New England,  
\$5,000,000; Forest fire deficiency, \$2,480,000; Dutch elm disease  
eradication, \$200,000; Control of outbreaks of insect pests and plant  
diseases, \$3,300,000. (H. Doc. 89.)

The House received from the Treasury Department a combined state-  
ment of receipts and expenditures, balances, etc., fiscal year 1938; ref.  
to Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments.

The House received annual reports from several agencies, in-  
cluding the following: Interstate Commerce Commission, Employees' Com-  
pensation Commission, Bituminous Coal Commission, District of Columbia,  
Post Office Department, Government Printing Office, and Federal Home  
Loan Bank Board.

The House adjourned until Monday, January 9. (Prepared by Office  
of Budget and Finance.)

Record Tax Collections Collections of internal revenue taxes during the  
fiscal year 1938 exceeded those of any previous fiscal  
year. The annual report of the Commissioner of Internal  
Revenue, issued recently, showed collections of \$5,658,765,314, compared  
with \$4,653,195,315 during the previous year. Income tax collections  
were \$2,586,243,954, a gain of 20.4 percent. Miscellaneous internal  
revenue, covering all sources except income and social security taxes,  
totaled \$2,329,861,134, an increase of 4.1 percent. Tax returns number-  
ing 25,584,889 were filed in collectors' offices in 1938 as against  
15,257,987 in 1937. Statements filed under the Social Security Act  
accounted for this large increase. (Associated Press.)



## Ginning

C. B. Sherman, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, writing on "Improved Ginning Makes Better Cotton" in Better Crops With Plant Food (December) says in part: "State and Federal men have long worked for the improvement of cultural methods and varieties, but only during recent years has it been possible for them to combine in a well-planned and concerted attack on the solution of practical ginning problems. Congress appropriated funds with which the Department was to investigate the ginning of cotton by establishing and maintaining experimental ginning plants and laboratories and by making tests and demonstrations of equipments and methods. When the experimental cotton gin and other necessary buildings and equipment were built and installed at Stoneville, Mississippi, the Bureaus of Agricultural Engineering and Agricultural Economics combined to get results that can be put into immediate and effective use. Moreover, they are cooperating with other Federal and State agencies and maintaining close relations with gin manufacturers, cotton breeders, and other agencies that can help, as was contemplated by Congress. Problems of ginning are many. One by one they have been systematically tackled at Stoneville, and one by one they are being solved in explicit terms that can be readily used by the ginners in action...Response to the investigations at Stoneville has been immediate, but with something like 13,000 gins of every size and kind operating in the Cotton Belt, it will take a long time to get results known to all of them and a still longer time to get them all to try out the results themselves. All kinds of extension methods are being used. Many States have gin extension specialists, or extension agricultural engineers, or extension agronomists working among the ginners and farmers..."

## Flax Growing

"Definite encouragement is given farmers in the Under AAA AAA's 1939 farm program to increase their acreages of flax," says an editorial in The Farmer (St. Paul, December 31). "It permits the use of non-depleting acreage for flax as a nurse crop for grasses in all the North Central Region, including Minnesota and South Dakota, and in North Dakota and Montana if the flax acreage is matched with an equal acreage of soil conserving crops seeded alone...Farmers in the North Central Region who seed flax under the 1939 regulations as a nurse crop must secure a good stand of the biennial or perennial legumes seeded with it if it is to be counted as non-depleting. The same applies to those who farm in North Dakota or Montana and match their flax acreage with an equal acreage of legumes seeded alone. The requirement of a good stand may cause some farmers to hesitate, as seeding and getting a good stand are two entirely different things... Nevertheless, the new program is a concession to those who wish to increase their acreage of flax or grow it for the first time and we anticipate a considerable increase in acreage as a result. We do not produce now enough flax to supply our needs and all efforts to divert acreage from surplus crops to flax or other non-surplus crops should be encouraged."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXII, No. 6

Section 1

January 10, 1939

## FARM BENEFIT PAYMENTS

A powerful farm group, the cotton growers, asked Congress yesterday to increase farm benefit payments to \$1,500,000,000, says an Associated Press report. Grower representatives, who have been holding conferences with Agricultural Adjustment Administration officials, estimated a billion dollars would be needed--in addition to the \$500,000,000 already earmarked for benefit payments--to guarantee farmers a "parity income" from their crops. "Parity income" payments to cotton growers alone would require between \$200,000,000 and \$300,000,000 additional, they said. The demands were set forth in resolutions made public after the farmer representatives had conferred with congressional farm leaders. The resolutions also proposed methods for reducing the huge supply of government loan cotton, suggesting that part of the 11,600,000 bales put up as collateral for government loans of about \$400,000,000 be handed back to growers who agreed to cut their production under the limits now prescribed.

## RAINFALL AIDS MIDWEST CROPS

Much needed rain and snow soaked the southwestern wheat belt yesterday, says an Associated Press report from Kansas City, but the joy of farmers was tempered by the death and destruction wrought by accompanying high winds in Texas and a near blizzard in New Mexico. Agriculturists said, however, the value of the beneficial moisture would far exceed the property losses. All Western States shared in the rain benefits. Cotton lands in south Texas were seasoned for planting. Wheat lands in Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and the Texas Panhandle were revived. Range lands in the West gained needed moisture. Soaking rains of an inch and more fell in western Kansas and Oklahoma. Fast melting snows aided soil conditions in Colorado. Rains were forecast in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa.

## DEVICE SPEEDS COTTON FINISH

An "eagle eye" machine, which speeds the finishing process in cotton manufacture almost four times, was announced at Schenectady yesterday, says an Associated Press report. It turns out cotton goods at the rate of three to nearly five miles an hour, regardless of width of the fabric. The new process was completed after several years of work by the General Electric Company. The "eagle eye" is a pair of light beams, each shaped like a safety razor blade and only two-hundredths of an inch thick.

Fire Resistant Timber      Edward Fope, author of "Fire Resistance of Timber" in Wood (London, December) says in part: "Where an extra high degree of fire resistancy in a frame structure is advisable the use of zinc chloride vacuum-pressure treated lumber is recommended. This is a process not in widespread use as yet, largely owing to its cost, which, however, varies according to the amount of lumber treated. The method of treating this lumber is largely responsible for its effectiveness. The wood is placed in a large retort. The air is exhausted to minus 29 pounds and heated to 150 degrees. Then a 5 percent solution of zinc chloride is introduced and the pressure raised to 150 pounds. This is maintained for eighteen to twenty hours. The lumber is then taken out and air dried for about two weeks, when it is ready for use. It is claimed that wood so treated is not only fire resistant but rot and termite proof also. It is as workable as regards painting, planing or cutting as untreated lumber. A piece may be well soaked with gasoline and when ignited the gas will burn off with practically no damage to the wood except to char the edges a little. A blow torch flame will only char the wood with no after smouldering..."

South Penn Experiment      "Pennsylvania has begun construction of the first important limited-access highway to be built in the country, a toll road reaching from the outskirts of Pittsburgh to the outskirts of Harrisburg," says an editorial in Engineering News-Record (January 5). "As the first of such roads it should serve to bring an end to much theorizing concerning limited-access superhighways and toll roads. Basic facts soon will be available on the service value of such roads. The South Penn highway will provide better grades, alignment and driving conditions than is found on either of the principal east-west highways that now wind their way over the mountain ridges of western Pennsylvania. Tolls have been set high enough for the expected traffic to amortize its high cost--\$370,000 a mile. The next two or three years should produce badly needed information on the amount and character of traffic that is willing to pay a substantial charge for special highway service."

Georgia Power Case Settled      Georgia Power Co., subsidiary of the Commonwealth & Southern Corp., has reached an agreement with the Tennessee Valley Authority regarding the controversy between it and the Federal agency in 1936, when the TVA first attempted to extend its service to rural areas in six counties in the northwestern corner of the state, says an Atlanta report in the Wall Street Journal. The settlement which was signed by the company, TVA, and North Georgia Electric Membership Corp., provides for services of city and industrial customers by the private utility and operation of rural distribution lines by the rural power cooperative.



California Rate Making      "A new departure in rate-making by rail and highway seems to have been made by the California Railroad Commission," says an editorial in the Wall Street Journal (January 7). "It has issued an order reducing rates for rail and truck carriage on a large number of commodities, apparently of less-than-car-load character--i.e., lots of 20,000 lbs. and less--giving as a reason that there is an over-supply of transportation facilities in the state and that lower rates will force marginal and inefficient operators from the field. Under what recognized principles of law concerning the regulation of public service enterprise this action is taken is not clear... There is here at least the possibility that Section 13 of the Transportation Act may be involved. This is the section which forbids prejudice as between intra-state and inter-state rates in the case of inter-state commerce. In any event the episode is of much interest in view of the novelty in the idea, for it seems to be a really fundamental innovation in rate regulation."

Quick Freezing Experiments      In Quick Frozen Foods (December) Gordon Morrison writes on "Vegetable Seed Breeding and Quick Frozen Foods." He says in part: "For several years the leading vegetable seed breeders' interest has been directed toward varieties adapted for 'quick freezing' from the viewpoint of growers, processors and consumers... Thus far it appears that garden peas, lima beans, sweet corn, spinach, asparagus, snap beans, carrots, green sprouting broccoli and brussels sprouts are the kinds that are best adapted to modern quick-freezing methods... Until research reveals methods by which vegetable tissues can be frozen and yet retain their crisp texture, it is not probable that tomatoes for salad use, radishes, lettuce, celery, cucumber and onions will be popular as frozen products. However, should means be discovered whereby these kinds can be satisfactorily preserved by freezing and cold storage, the vegetable seed breeder will doubtless furnish suitable varieties."

There is included a list of vegetable varieties (compiled from information furnished by government specialists and private vegetable and breeding institutions) that have been found well adapted to preservation by quick freezing and cold storage.

Two other articles of interest are a survey of cold storage locker plants, and a description of a combination truck and freezer developed by A. H. DeRome of the Quebec Provincial Government.

N.Y. Breeding Society      Patterned after New Jersey's pioneer artificial cattle breeding association, dairy groups elsewhere are using this new method of breeding. More than 50 dairy farmers from Seneca, Cayuga, Cortland, Broome, Tioga and Tompkins counties recently formed the first Empire State (New York) association for artificial insemination. (Farm Journal, January.)



Engineering News-Record      "With this issue (January 5) Engineering News-Record appears in rearranged and improved form," says an editorial. "...The rearranged Engineering News-Record concentrates an increased number of articles in biweekly issues, which contain also a broadened news section and all other current information. Further, it provides weekly news service by a news issue published intermediate between the biweekly technical issues, and containing news, construction reports, invitations to bidders, and contract unit prices. Material prices will appear in the first issue of the month as heretofore..."

Live-At-Home Program      "If a farmer will not grow his own food and feed crops we do not want him as a customer," says Banker John M. Graham, Floyd County, Georgia. After 20 years' experience he is certain that no bank engaged in farmer-financing can do a sounder thing than to require that necessary food and feed crops be grown on the farm as a condition for the granting of loans. Lending each year to five or six hundred farmers, Mr. Graham believes that his bank has done much to make good farmers by the conditions attached to the loans. Of the bank's live-at-home program, he says further: "The program the bank has been on for the last 20 years has been that of demanding of the farmer that he produce the hay and corn necessary for his own use. We have not demanded or even suggested that he grow corn or hay as a money crop. It naturally follows that by degrees the farmer will have a surplus of corn and hay and, in that event, he has it for sale, or it becomes necessary for him to buy stock to consume it. Our losses over a period of years have been practically nothing. Also there are with very few exceptions, no carry-overs of loans from one year to another. The farmers who do business with us do it on a sound basis, which not only makes it good for the bank but at the same time makes it good for them." (Progressive Farmer, January.)

Controlled Sprouting      Sprouting of seed potato pieces can be prevented and started again at will, Dr. John D. Guthrie, of the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, reported at the recent Science Association meeting. Pieces that would normally grow with no hesitation at all can have their sprouting held up by treatment with potassium naphthaleneacetate. The spell of this chemical can be broken with another, ethylene chlorhydrin, which caused them to sprout most vigorously. Dr. Guthrie suggested two possible practical applications: The treatment may be used (1) to retard the sprouting of potatoes and other plants during storage, and (2) to delay the blossoming of fruit buds that have a tendency to come out while there is still danger of frost. (Science Service.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXII, No. 7

Section 1

January 11, 1939

## WORLD WHEAT PROBLEMS

A London cable to the New York Times says the problem of a world wheat surplus that threatens to send prices sagging to the point of disaster for farmers was posed to representatives of twenty-two nations at a meeting of the International Wheat Advisory Committee yesterday. The committee heard reports of various experts giving their own countries' viewpoints on the picture presented by the committee's permanent secretariat. The gist of this report was that the estimated consumption of wheat during the crop year ending next July 1 was only 75 percent of the world supply.

An Associated Press report from Rome says the International Institute of Agriculture yesterday warned that the world faced another wheat crisis, even more serious than that of 1928, by reason of a mounting grain surplus. The institute estimated that exportable wheat supplies would be 1,140,000,000 bushels by July 31, 1939, and that the world import demand would be 540,000,000 bushels.

## GRAIN STOCKS ON FARMS

The Federal Crop Reporting Board said yesterday that farm supplies of corn, wheat, oats, barley and grain sorghums on January 1 were substantially heavier than in any of the last dozen years, with the exception of 1933. Stocks of corn on farms January 1 were reported at 1,797,281,000 bushels, compared with 1,673,221,000 bushels a year earlier. The board said these stocks were 35 percent larger than the average of 1,331,334,000 bushels during the 10-year period of 1928-37. Farm stocks of all wheat were reported at 281,190,000 bushels, compared with 208,510,000 bushels on January 1 last year and a 10-year average of 215,599,000 bushels. Farm stocks of oats were placed at 685,583,000 bushels which compared with 698,432,000 bushels last year and the 10-year average of 625,672,000 bushels. (Associated Press.)

## FARM BUREAU PROPOSALS

Reduction of hours and wages of relief labor to make private employment "more attractive than relief employment" was asked of President Roosevelt yesterday in a program submitted by the American Farm Bureau Federation. The federation endorsed the principles underlying the present federal farm program as "fundamentally sound" and observed that "this is no time to give serious consideration to substitute programs when the facts indicate that the present program has not yet had a fair trial."

Chemurgic  
Journal

The Department Library has received Volume I, Number 3, of the Farm Chemurgic Journal (published by the National Farm Chemurgic Council, Inc.). This issue (December) contains three articles by Department people: Work of the U.S. Regional Soybean Industrial Laboratory, by O. E. May (Bureau of Chemistry and Soils); Research on Wood, Cellulose and Lignin, by E. C. Sherrard (Forest Products Laboratory); and Small House Construction, by Carlile P. Winslow (Director, Forest Products Laboratory).

Senate,  
Jan. 9

Messrs. Bridges and Norris discussed the nomination of Harry Hopkins as Secretary of Commerce and James P. Pope as a member of the Tennessee Valley Authority Board.

The following committee appointments were made: Mr. Bulow to the Joint Committee on Forestry; Mr. Logan to the Special Joint Committee to Investigate the Adequacy and Use of Phosphate Resources; Mr. George to the National Forest Reservation Commission.

The Senate agreed to a resolution fixing the number of members on the various committees. The number of members of the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry was increased by one.

The Senate received reports from various agencies, including the Department of Agriculture, in response to S.Res. 285, 75th Congress, requesting the names of alien employees and the reasons for their employment.

Both Houses received from the Secretary of the Treasury a draft of a bill to transfer the jurisdiction over District of Columbia credit unions from the D.C. commissioners and the Comptroller of the Currency to the Farm Credit Administration; referred to Coms. on District of Columbia.

The Senate received annual reports from several agencies, including: Civil Service Commission, Treasury Department, Bonneville project and Department of Agriculture on forest roads and trails.

House,  
Jan. 9

Messrs. Rich, Voorhis and Knutson discussed the fiscal and political situation, etc.

The House received annual reports from several agencies, including: Civil Service Commission, National Archives.

(Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Retirement  
Proposals

The Civil Service Commission, in its annual report, recommended that legislation be enacted to change the retirement act, as follows: "To establish a uniform optional retirement age of 60 years after 30 years service, or 62 years after 15 years service, to be exercised by either the government or the employee; and to make retirement compulsory at 70 years of age for all; to provide annuity for employees retired because of physical disability who recover before retirement age and who fail to secure reinstatement through no fault of their own; to broaden retirement benefits so as to permit an employee to elect a reduced annuity in order that payments may be continued to a surviving dependent..." (New York Times.)



**Civil Service Examinations** The Civil Service Commission announces the following examinations: No. 9, assembled, supervising inspector, \$3,800, senior inspector, \$3,200, inspector, \$2,600, wage and hour division, Department of Labor. Applications must be on file not later than the following dates: (a) February 7, if received from states other than those in b; (b) February 10, if received from the following: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

**Electric Heat for Poultry** Hobart Beresford, head, Department of Agricultural Engineering, University of Idaho, writes on electric heat for poultry houses, in *Electricity on the Farm* (January). "The convenient type of circulation air heaters equipped with a thermostat control," he says, "is the answer to the recirculating and warming or tempering of air in the poultry house under winter conditions. One of the most acceptable phases of this application of electricity to poultry production is the fact that the heaters may be installed as a standby service, with the thermostat set at 35 or 40 degrees F., making the heat available when low temperatures actually occur in the laying pens. Three years of work with various types of heaters at the University of Idaho...revealed that a heater which **circulates** a relatively large volume of air with a relatively low rise in temperature is more desirable than one which circulates less air but raises the air to a higher temperature...Commercial heaters of this type are now available, and in most communities rates for electric energy are low enough to make the operation of such heaters economically possible..."

**Southern Pine Conservation** Business Week (January 7) reports that private business in the South is sponsoring a drive for timber conservation. "The plan," it says, "embraces not only the 3,300,000 acres of woods owned by the pulp mills but also the millions of acres in small holdings from which cutting will be sold to the mills... Emphasis is on cutting of wornout or defective trees for pulp, protection from fires, encouragement of seedlings, industry cooperation with state and federal forestry activities...At the head of the move is Maj. R. H. Spessard, president of the American Pulpwood Association. The entire southern forest area (from West Virginia downward and west as far as Texas) was divided into regional districts for policing purposes...Rules generally include: (1) Fire protection in cooperation with state and federal agencies; (2) cutting no trees under 8 inches in diameter a foot from the ground except to improve the stand; (3) leaving not less than four seed trees per acre; (4) utilizing all damaged trees and tops from saw timber operations; (5) encourage governmental agencies to education owners of non-company lands in cutting practice..."

**U.S.-French Trade** A Paris report to the New York Times says French trade figures for 1938 show a marked increase of imports from the United States as a result of the trade treaty between the two countries. The items particularly affected include petroleum and fruit.



**Erosion Control Report**                Soil saving advanced along a wide and varied line in the fiscal year 1939, but still has far to go, H. H. Bennett, Chief of the Soil Conservation Service, said in his annual report to Secretary Wallace. Its own project, together with erosion control work it directs through the CCC, extended to about 11,500,000 acres of privately owned land and involved cooperation with more than 61,000 farmers. By its agreements with the farmers some 850,000 acres of cultivated land will be diverted to less erosive uses. During the year 490,000 acres in its demonstration areas were retired from cultivation and were being made into permanent pasture, meadow or woodland. In the year, Dr. Bennett said, farmers in 18 of the 25 states with enabling laws organized 72 soil conservation districts, covering 38,000,000 acres. By the end of June, 34 of these districts had entered into cooperative agreements with the conservation service, and the farmers of 18 districts were at work saving the soil. "Formation of these districts gave new impetus to conservation of the nation's soil resources," Dr. Bennett stated. (New York Times.)

**Canned Quick Frozen Foods**                Joseph M. Roush, in Food Industries (January) describes a California method of quick freezing food in cans, and says that can companies, ice companies, the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, the California Bureau of Cannery Inspection and the University of California are cooperating in the tests. The author says in part: "Fifty-nine different products have been packed in cans and quick frozen. Fruit pulps packed included apricot, nectarine, plum, pear, avocado, persimmon, strawberry and youngberry; juices included orange, lemon and apple; dairy products included homogenized, pasteurized and evaporated milk, pasteurized cream, egg whites, egg yolks and whole eggs; vegetables included asparagus, lima beans, peas, string beans, broccoli, spinach and Brussels sprouts; fruits included strawberries, sliced pears, figs in syrup and sliced avocado; seafoods included oysters, shrimp, abalone, crab and fillets of sole and rock cod. Chicken also was packed... Approximately 14,500 cans of test products had been run through the freezer up to the end of November. All of these are being checked and observed over a period of time by the research departments of the interested organizations..."

**Mo. Wildlife Conservation**                "Missouri's Conservation Commission will use the \$20,000 which it expects to receive next year as its share in federal wildlife aid funds in creating a five-year plan in game management research," reports Field & Stream (February). "About \$6,000 in state funds will be supplemented. The program will encourage the adoption of wildlife management practices designed to benefit all wildlife, with particular emphasis placed on quail, wild turkey, prairie chicken, deer and fur bearers, and will be under the supervision of the Game, Fish and Forestry Division. Five divisions will be established in the state, each to have its demonstration area where tests will be made of wildlife needs. The results of these tests and demonstrations are expected to serve as the basis for adoption of actual game management practices on thousands of Missouri farms."



# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXII, No. 8

Section 1

January 12, 1939

## "TWO PRICE SYSTEM"

"The two price scheme for increasing the sale of surplus farm products in this country has been abandoned in name by the Department of Agriculture and virtually discarded as a possible solution to present marketing problems," reports Gerald Griffin in the Baltimore Sun. "The plan...involved the maintenance of two price levels for certain products, one to be the usual figure for persons able to pay it and the other to be a lower level for those with small incomes. Government subsidies were to make possible the second level. Yesterday at a press conference Secretary Wallace said he thought the phrase, 'two price system,' had died...and cited two instances of the government's efforts to increase consumption. One deals with grapefruit and the other with cotton mattresses. Neither involves the two price plan... He went on to say that the phrase 'two price system' did not describe the idea accurately and that what the department actually wants to do is to take steps possible to boost consumption..."

## NEW ENGLAND

The Agricultural Adjustment Administration announced yesterday a special conservation program for forestry areas of New England and Long Island damaged by the September hurricane. Under a program, owners may earn government benefit payments of \$4 an acre for cleaning up damaged forest lands now deemed to constitute a serious fire hazard. The maximum payments for any farm will be \$60. These payments will be in addition to those offered in the regular conservation program for the New England area. The Forest Service has warned of the danger of forest fires unless the debris of the hurricane is removed. It has estimated the amount of timber blown down by the storm at 4,000,000,000 board feet, which is 8 times the average annual cut in New England. (Associated Press.)

## LAND GRANT

### R.R. RATES

Repeal of rail rates provided under the Federal Land Grant Act was urged at a joint meeting of the executive committee and the railroad contact committee of the Atlantic States Shippers Advisory Board yesterday, says a report in the Baltimore Sun. The rates were held to be discriminatory in that they enable shippers along lines with some 17,000 miles of track built under the terms of the Land Grant Act to ship commodities to government agencies at 50 percent of prevailing rates on the remainder of the nation's 240,000 miles of railroads.

**Frozen Food Store** "Opened by a veteran meat packer of Tulsa, Oklahoma, a new cold storage locker system offers a complete service to its customers," says Ice and Refrigeration (January). "selling meats direct to the consumer at wholesale prices and providing them with modern refrigerated lockers for the storage of perishable food products. The new plant has capacity for 500 individual lockers. This new, 'one-stop' food station is not only equipped to dispense the increasing number of frozen fruits, vegetables and fish, available on the market today, but also secures on the hoof, the animals from the farmer or stock raiser, supervises the butchering at commercial packing firms, then does the processing in its new, modern plant. The carcasses are placed in the cooling room for ageing at 35 degrees F. Meat is sold direct to the consumer in wholesale cuts at wholesale prices, or is processed into roasts, chops, steaks, etc., wrapped and labeled, given a quick freeze at -10 degrees F. and is ready for storage in the individual's locker... This system enables the consumer to buy in larger quantities at most favorable prices or to buy more of the best at the least cost..."

**Universal Grinder** "One of the old, established hammer mill makers has just come out with a new universal grinder which will grind grain, ear corn, roughage, roots, ensilage or compost," says Electricity on the Farm (January). "In external appearance it looks like an ordinary hammer mill and blower elevator. It is used this way for grinding grain, snapped corn, bundle grain and roughage. To cut ensilage and roots or vegetables, remove the screen, replace the hammers with knives and reverse the hood so as to feed into the opposite side of the mill. The knives then work against a strike plate as in an ensilage cutter. In the third position the blower belt is removed, a pan substituted for the screen and a side discharge plate opened. This is the setting for grinding manure, leaves, soil and sand in making compost. It may also be used this way for grinding roots and vegetables. Cutter knives are round. It requires a motor of 7 1/2 h.p. or larger when using the blower or 5 h.p. without the blower."

**Cottonseed Oil Machinery** An increase of 45,000,000 pounds in the South's annual production of cottonseed oil is made possible by the development of new automatically controlled processing equipment in the laboratories of the Engineering Experiment Station of the University of Tennessee in cooperation with the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Engineering Foundation of New York has announced. The research, aided by grants from the foundation, is regarded as the first of a series of achievements which will enable cottonseed, the uses of which are multiplying, "to function to greater advantage in the cotton economy of the South." "Due to better control conditions over cooking, it has been possible to obtain at least ten pounds more oil per ton of cottonseed than the best experience using conventional equipment," the foundation's announcement said. (New York Times.)



Senate,  
Jan. 10

The Senate approved the assignments to the standing committees, including: Agriculture and Forestry, Messrs. Smith (chairman), Wheeler, Thomas of Oklahoma, Bankhead, Bulow, Mrs. Caraway, Messrs. Hatch, Bilbo, Schwollenbach, Gillette, Ellender, Minton, Lucas, -----, Norris, McNary, Capper, Frazier, Shipstead, and Wiley; Appropriations: Messrs. Glass (chairman), McKellar, Hayden, Thomas of Oklahoma, Byrnes, Tydings, Russell, Adams, McCarran, Overton, Bankhead, O'Mahoney, Truman, Burke, Green, Maloney, Chavez, Hale, Nye, Townsend, Bridges, Lodge, Holman and Taft (the subcommittees of this committee have not yet been selected); Civil Service; Messrs. Bulow (chairman) McKellar, George, Logan, Neely, Byrd, Downey, White, Gibson and Frazier. Mr. Miller was appointed to the Special Committee on Taxation of Government Securities and Salaries.

Both Houses received the annual report of the Central Statistical Board.

The Senate adjourned until Thursday, January 12.

House,  
Jan. 10

Mr. Treadway spoke in opposition to the reciprocal trade agreements and mentioned specifically foreign commerce in agricultural products.

Mr. Crawford spoke in opposition to the sugar control program and the reciprocal trade agreements as they relate to the importation of sugar.

Oldest

Farm Paper

"With this issue (January) the Southern Planter enters its 100th year," says an editorial. "It is America's oldest farm paper--established in 1840. The Southern Planter began publication on Governor Street, Richmond, Virginia, and is still published on the same street, in the same city and for the same type of people--southern farm families who believe in the application of science to the business of farming and homemaking..."

Dairy Bureau  
Progress

"Progress made by dairy scientists carrying on research designed to lower the cost of producing milk and processing it into dairy products is summed up in the annual report to the Secretary of Agriculture by O. E. Reed, Chief of the Bureau of Dairy Industry," says Hoard's Dairyman (January 10). "Mr. Reed points out that scientists seek knowledge which will enable farmers and processors to operate at higher efficiency in order to make possible greater per capita consumption of milk and dairy products. This, he said, would enhance 'both the economic welfare of the dairy farmers and the nutritional welfare of the people of the United States.' Dairy prices are too low for profit on many milk-producing farms, he states, adding that low prices bear particularly heavily upon the operators of lowest efficiency since their costs per unit of production are highest. The opportunity for greater efficiency, he said, lies largely in breeding cows which will produce more milk in return for a given amount of feed, and in the use of more and better roughage crops to reduce feeding costs..."

### Classified Insurance

Use of classified rates by farm mutual fire insurance companies would encourage rural property owners to make improvements to lessen fire hazards and would have avoided part of the \$95,000,000 in losses sustained by such risks last year, it was stated recently in a report by the Farm Credit Administration. Compiled by V. M. Valgren, insurance specialist for the FCA, the study said that the present policy engaged in by two-thirds of all farm mutual insurance companies of charging premiums on the basis of "one rate to all risks" is generally conceded to be inequitable and lacking in inducement to make insured risks safer. It was revealed that the FCA is now making a study to assist in the problem of changing over to classified rates, "which are more equitable to all concerned." Information on farm mutual reinsurance methods and facilities will be offered to farm mutual companies as a basis for improvement in their operations. It was estimated that about 3,000,000 farmers are now members of some 1,900 mutuals. Mr. Valgren also reported progress in a movement which has been under way for some time to adopt standard insurance forms and methods of operation. He said there is a trend away from the original plan of postponing assessments until fire losses have been incurred toward a policy of advance assessments and the building up of reasonable reserves. (New York Journal of Commerce, January 9.)

### Legume-Grain Rotation

"A new legume-small grain rotation has been added to the list recommended by the Missouri College of Agriculture," says Capper's Farmer (January). "Red clover and winter barley are involved. Barley is fertilized, particularly with phosphate, to lessen danger of winter killing, improve yield and prevent exhaustion of fertility. The clover is sowed in spring on barley in the manner customarily followed in winter wheat. The barley, if it is the Early Missouri beardless variety, will be ready to harvest in late May or early June for grain. This advanced harvest combined with lighter straw of the cover crop will lessen one major common hazard to young clover. After barley harvest the clover will be used in any way it fits the farming program--as pasture, as hay or as an unharvested soil improvement crop. But it will be expedient to so manipulate the second year growth that self seeding will occur. Disking will prepare an adequate seedbed for winter barley and cover the clover seed which will afford a volunteer stand the following spring. Should clover fail the first season, the field may be disked, phosphated **again**, resowed to barley that fall and mechanically seeded to clover the following spring. If feed shortage demands taking the second year clover for hay or if no seed develops for any other reason, the rotation can be maintained by spring sowing in the customary manner."

### Visual Aids

Better Farm Equipment and Methods (January) under the heading, "Visual Aids," reviews educational films, including silent and sound movies, film strips, slides, etc.

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# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXII, No. 9

Section 1

January 13, 1939

**FARM BILL INTRODUCED** A broad farm bill, which its sponsors predicted would rally the support of practically all elements opposed to the present agricultural program, was introduced in the Senate and the House yesterday. Under the bill, all dealers and processors would be required to pay not less than the cost of production price for products which they purchased or processed for domestic consumption. Senator Frazier of North Dakota introduced the bill in the Senate, and Representative Massingale of Oklahoma presented the bill in the House. The Secretary of Agriculture would determine the cost of production of each farm product annually after holdings hearings. He would estimate the volume of production, the portion required for domestic consumption and the portion remaining for warehouse reserves or export. Dealers and processors would periodically deliver to the Secretary of Agriculture their warehouse reserves and export quantities, to be disposed of "to the best advantage in the world market." (A.P.)

**VT. FLOOD CONTROL** The right of the Federal Government to take lands in Vermont without consent of the state, as asserted by Congress in its flood control legislation of 1938, was challenged yesterday by the Vermont Legislature, according to a Montpelier dispatch to the Baltimore Sun. By a viva voce vote the Senate and Assembly voted Governor Aiken \$67,500 to fight that legislation by any means desirable. The Legislature also adopted a resolution petitioning Congress to repeal the law to which it objects and to require Secretary of War Woodring to sign the contract which has been drawn up between Vermont and the War Department governing transfer of lands for a flood control dam on the Ompomanoosuc River.

**WORLD WHEAT CONFERENCE** A London report by the Associated Press says the International Wheat Advisory Committee, attempting to solve a double problem of huge surpluses and low prices, agreed yesterday to call a world conference to consider the wheat situation. Such a meeting, the first since 1933, will be subject to general acceptance of an agenda. A subcommittee including the United States, Britain, Argentina and Canada was appointed to work out details of that problem. The United States delegate, L. V. Steers, accepted in principle the summoning of a conference.

**Soil Sample  
Testing**

"Dr. M. F. Morgan, Chief Agronomist of the Connecticut Experiment Station and Chairman of the Subcommittees on Soil Testing (of Committee on Fertilizers of the American Society of Agronomy) reports that plans have been worked out for assembling a series of soil samples to be used in checking the various methods for determining plant-food deficiencies in soils," says The Fertilizer Review (November-December). "Samples representing about 16 soils will be collected by the experiment stations in the states selected and these samples will be sent to the U. S. Department of Agriculture where they will be stored and made available in sets of two to four ounce samples. Four soils will be selected from each of the Southern, Middle Atlantic, Northeastern, and East Central regions and in each region two heavy and two light soils of typical series and in their normal state of fertility for the crops most commonly grown will be selected. The availability of such a series of check samples will be of great assistance to persons engaged in soil testing, for it will enable them to check the accuracy of their laboratory methods and it will be a great aid in the interpretation of results."

**Feed Service**

"A new service in commercial feeds is offered by most companies now," says the Kansas Farmer (December 31). "It will be of particular interest to farmers. This is the concentrate, to be mixed with the farm raised grains. Here is an idea nearly every farm poultryman can use. He has to buy the concentrates anyway. He can get them in exactly the right proportion with no fuss or expense, mix in his own grains carefully, and have as good mash as if he had bought it complete. An increasing number of feed stores and elevators are mixing feed for the farmer. He brings in his corn, wheat, oats and kafir. It is ground and mixed for a cost of 10 to 15 cents a hundred, the dealer supplying the concentrate at regular cost. In this way you can get a top-notch mixed laying feed, at a cash outlay of 75 cents a hundred pounds or less, you supplying the low-cost grains."

**Housing  
Program**

A total business of nearly \$1,500,000,000 in 1938, the largest annual volume in its history, was transacted by the Federal Housing Administration, Administrator Stewart McDonald has announced. Reflecting the gain in home construction that marked housing's contribution to recovery last year, the FHA selected 71 percent more in home mortgages for appraisal and accepted 45 percent more in value of mortgages for insurance. The announcement came while a Nation-wide drive to stimulate construction of a record number of homes in 1939 was being mapped. Executives of 60 leading companies in the field agreed on co-operation with such Federal agencies as the FHA and the Federal Home Loan Bank Board in the new campaign, aimed especially at meeting demand for "houses costing from \$2,000 to \$5,000." (Washington Post.)



The Senate was not in session.

Items in Appendix: Legislative proposals by the American Farm Bureau Federation; Statement of Mr. O'Connor of Mont. before Committee for Reciprocity Information, opposing reciprocal trade agreement with Cuba as regards sugar. (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Health in                      The American City (January) reviewing a Public Health  
Rural Areas              Service report, says: "Although mortality rates have de-  
                                 creased more rapidly in urban than in rural areas since  
1900, rural males subject to the mortality conditions of 1900 had a greater  
expectation of life at all ages over one year than did urban males in 1930.  
The difference between females is less, but even so, white women between  
30 and 80 years of age living in urban communities in 1930 could not ex-  
pect to live as many years as rural women of the same ages in 1900. A  
comparison of case rates of non-fatal illness in different-sized communi-  
ties shows that the lowest rates occur among people living in the open  
country and in the large cities of 100,000 or more population. The rates  
for both total and disabling cases of illness are slightly but not sig-  
nificantly lower among people living in the open country than among  
people living in the large cities. Case rates are appreciably higher  
among people living in cities of less than 100,000 population and in  
small towns and villages than among people living in the open country and  
in large cities. The distribution of incidence of mental illness is, in  
general, similar to that of physical illness...Regardless of the way in  
which ill-health is measured, rural residents possess definite advantages  
over urban residents. For a few diseases, the superior medical and health  
facilities and services available to city dwellers have partially com-  
pensated for unhealthful environmental conditions. This is especially  
true for the communicable diseases and those causing infant deaths. How-  
ever, for most causes of illness, especially fatal illness, rural residents  
still have definitely lower rates than urban residents in spite of the  
superior medical facilities available to the latter."



Concrete for Poultry House      "A new type of concrete, composed of cement, saw-dust and water in definite proportions for use in construction of poultry house floors, has been developed at the University of New Hampshire, according to Russell R. Skelton, associate professor of civil engineering," says Everybodys Poultry Magazine (January). "The material looks the same as ordinary cement-sand mortar except that it is light and fluffy, weighing about one-third as much as ordinary concrete. For the mixture recommended for most poultry house floors, 1 volume of cement to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  volumes of sawdust, the strength will average 300 to 400 pounds per square inch. Several years of experimentation and research show that this new material is an excellent insulating agent, is water repellent, can be easily finished to a smooth surface, is fire resistant and will not support combustion. Tests prove that it will withstand temperatures as high as 250 degrees without detrimental effects. One of its novel features is that it can be cut with an ordinary saw after it has hardened, and it will hold nails or screws..."

Secretary's Report      The American Cotton Grower (January) says editorially: "Secretary Wallace, in his carefully written and comprehensive report to the President on his department, pointed out an all-too-important truth on farming when he said that formerly it was the government's duty to help farmers expand production so that they might expand with an increasing domestic market and large demands abroad. But because of changes caused by the World War it has become 'essentially a problem of marketing rather than one of deficient production'. The Secretary reported that recent changes in the administrative set-up of the Department of Agriculture were an effort to place the Department more in line with the needs of the time--that is, marketing and distribution. In some of the emergency surplus programs being handled by bureaus within the Department the problem of distribution is being tackled where it will count most. Farmers, distributors and processors are taking their cut in profits in order that needy consumers may have the abundance of cheaper food and clothing..."

Farm Mutual Companies      S. D. Sanders, Cooperative Bank Commissioner, in News for Farmer Cooperatives (January) writes on "Loss Prevention by Farm Mutuals." He says in part: "The average annual cost for all farm mutual fire-insurance companies in the United States during the last two decades has never exceeded 32 cents per \$100 per year. This high point in their cost of insurance occurred in 1932. For most years in the last 20 this average annual cost has been less than 28 cents per \$100 of insurance. For the year 1935, which is the latest year for which we have complete figures, the average cost of this insurance for all the farm mutual fire-insurance companies as a group was slightly below 24 cents per \$100. By cost I mean total outlays for losses and for expenses of operation. One of the striking things about the record of these mutuals is, however, the variation in cost between different companies..."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXII, No. 10

Section 1

January 16, 1939

**SOUTHERN PROBLEMS** Twenty-nine southern leaders, representing the fields of education, business, journalism, labor and state government, offered a program yesterday for advancement of the South's economic position, says an Atlanta report by the Associated Press. Citing the report of the National Emergency Council on the South, which President Roosevelt has referred to as the nation's No. 1 economic problem, the group asserted that improvement of the South's business, educational and health facilities was vital to national progress. Listed first was the problem of agriculture, and the report urged "continued expansion of the rehabilitation work of the Farm Security Administration."

**PHOTOGRAMMETRY SOCIETY MEETS** A report in the Washington Post says that there arrived in Washington yesterday the first plane ever specifically designed for map making by aerial photography. It will be shown to the American Society of Photogrammetry, which tonight will open a 3-day meeting at the National Academy of Sciences. The society is devoted to aerial mapping and photography. The plane has been tested for the past year in mapping farmland for the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Among the addresses before the society will be one on "Aero-Film Storage Vaults for the Agriculture Department" by M. S. Wright, technical adviser on photogrammetry of the Agriculture Department.

**TRANSPORTATION BILL INTRODUCED** A national transportation bill consolidating many of the recommendations recently made to President Roosevelt for relief of the railroad problems has been introduced by Representative C. F. Lea of California, chairman of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. The first hearing was set for tomorrow. The bill would expand the Interstate Commerce Commission from 11 to 19 members, reorganized along functional lines; create the additional office of special administrator; put transportation coordinating powers in the ICC and permit it to supersede other regulatory bodies like the Civil Aeronautics Authority and Maritime Commission to fix minimum rates in all fields of interstate and coastal transportation; and create a 3-judge railroad reorganization court to speed rail reorganizations, its members to be appointed from existing federal judges by the Chief Justice of the United States. (New York Times.)



**Bibliofilm Service**                      Science (January 13) contains a short article on the utilization of microfilms in scientific research, by Atherton Seidell, National Institute of Health. He says in part: "The Bibliofilm Service (a non-profit organization) of Washington is conducted by cooperative agreement in the libraries of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Army Medical, Geological Survey and Bureau of Standards. The price is 1 cent per page plus 20 cents service charge for each article copied. They can be read by means of a small hand magnifier or with the aid of a highly perfected desk projector...The greater part of original scientific research is published in the form of brief accounts, not exceeding ten pages in length. Such reports may usually be copied upon less than five microfilm spaces of a total length of about 8 inches...Microfilms offer the best possible method for making extensive compilations of scientific literature. They permit the complete assemblage of all pertinent reports before their critical study and arrangement of the facts in the logical order required for their presentation...Finally, not the least of the advantages of microfilms is their very modest cost to the individual. In fact, up to the present, those who have made use of the Bibliofilm Service operating in the library of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, have received microfilms at considerably less than their actual cost. Fortunately for the progress of research, the Chemical Foundations have recognized the advantages of microfilms to the advancement of science, and have generously contributed to the expenses of developing and operating Bibliofilm Service. It is expected that with the continued expansion of the service the present low price will be sufficient to cover the actual cost of furnishing microfilms to research workers. Microfilm copying such as has been developed by Bibliofilm Service now operating in four Washington libraries puts at the disposal of every one doing serious research the resources of the most complete collections of scientific literature in the United States. From the standpoint of original literature microfilms places those doing research in the most isolated institutions on an equality with those working in immediate proximity to complete collections of scientific periodicals. It may be expected therefore that many who have hitherto been prevented from undertaking research for want of proper library facilities, will now find it possible to devote themselves to the numberless scientific and technical problems awaiting solution."

In the same periodical Lee R. Dice, University of Michigan, describes a simple method for filing miniature negatives and microfilm records in strips.

**Park Service**                      A total of 1,749 birds, representing 57 species,  
**Bird Banding**                      were banded during 1938 at the 8 bird-banding stations maintained in the areas comprised by the 28 southwestern monuments of the National Park Service. (Press.)



Congress,                      The Senate confirmed the nomination of James P. Pope  
January 12                      to the Tennessee Valley Authority, and adjourned until  
Monday, January 16.

The House began general debate on H.J.Res.83, appropriating \$725,000,000 for work relief and relief (fiscal year 1939), which was reported from the Committee on Appropriations (H.Rept. 4).

House,                      By a vote of 397 to 16 the House passed H.J.Res.83,  
January 13                      appropriating \$725,000,000 for relief and work relief.

Amendments agreed to: The civil service provision was modified by insertion of the following proviso: "but this proviso shall not apply to positions the compensation of which is payable from appropriations made in subsections (5), (6), (7), and (8) of section 1 of the said Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1938;"

Refusing payments to foremen who attempt to influence political opinions of persons receiving relief funds;

Prohibiting payments to aliens;

Providing that "no requirement of eligibility for employment under such...Act of 1938...shall be effective which prohibits the employment of persons 65 years of age or over or women with dependent children;"

Providing that "no funds herein appropriated shall be used by the Farm Security Administration or any other Federal agency to establish hosiery mills on homestead or other projects in competition with existing industries."

Mr. Jones of Texas submitted an amendment to permit farmers to work on projects in rural areas, but after discussion this amendment was withdrawn for revision and later was ruled out of order.

It was announced that hearings on the deficiency bill will begin Monday.

The House adjourned until Monday, January 16.

Items in Appendix: Extension of remarks of Mr. Harrington and Mr. Nichols on the farm problem. (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Texas Cotton                      The San Antonio Express (January 4) in its column,  
Campaign                      "Think," says: "The Texas cotton campaign, that William H. Jones will direct, is planned to create a market for whatever the laboratory shall turn out...Such able economists and scientists as Dr. A.B.Conner, who heads Texas Experiment Station; Dr. M.E.Heard of Texas Technological College's technical engineering department, and Dr. E.P. Schoch, directing the University of Texas industrial chemistry bureau, are on the committee that will wage the campaign. Through their respective institutions, those experts have served the cotton industry most usefully. Dr. Conner has effectively promoted the one-variety cotton community, which already has raised quality-standards for this State's cotton and promises to make the Texas label stand for the world's best staple. Dr. Heard's department lately devised a new kind of waterproof building board made from cottonseed-hulls. Dr. Schoch's bureau at Austin has borne a part in bringing out many a new product of both lint and cottonseed oil. The committee will work with the United States Department of Agriculture group that is studying means to put more cotton in use."



Raspberry                      "Stepping ahead with their raspberry breeding work  
Breeding                      which has been in progress at the New York Experiment  
                                 Station for upwards of 10 years, G. L. Slate and his  
fellow researchers have named and are introducing three new red rasp-  
berries," says the American Fruit Grower (January). "'The introduction  
of the Lloyd George red raspberry from England and its use as a parent  
in breeding work is a landmark in the improvement of this fruit,' com-  
ments Slate. 'A notable series of very promising seedlings has recently  
been developed from crosses between Lloyd George and other varieties,  
especially Newman and Newburgh.' Indian Summer, Marcy, and Taylor, the  
new introductions, are Lloyd George seedlings. Indian Summer turned out  
to be the best ever-bearing or autumn fruiting red raspberry at the New  
York station. It originated from a cross between Lloyd George and one  
of the station seedlings, neither of which fruits in the fall at Geneva,  
where the station is located. Marcy and Taylor resulted from crosses  
between Lloyd George and Newman. Marcy is the largest red raspberry to  
fruit at the New York station. Taylor has performed so well that it is  
now being commercially recommended..."

Consumer                      That well nigh revolutionary changes in all fields  
Packaging                      of consumer packaging are imminent as the result of recent  
                                 federal legislation is the conclusion reached by the  
American Management Association after meetings to formulate the program  
for the annual Conference on Packaging, Packing and Shipping and the  
Packaging Exposition, New York, March 7 to 10. Alvin E. Dodd, president  
of the American Management Association, said: "...At least three widely  
accepted conclusions emerge: First, that the new legislation, particularly  
the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, will precipitate drastic changes in the  
packaging of the industries affected by the act; second, that these  
changes ultimately will result in a marked increase in the ingenuity and  
soundness of packaging technique in these fields, which in turn will have  
a parallel effect on all other industries; and third, that certain mea-  
sures, notably the wage and hour legislation, will accelerate the ten-  
dency toward the increased use of automatic packaging machinery..."  
(The American Produce Review, January 11.)

N.Y. Botanic                      The main conservatory of the New York Botanical  
Garden                      Garden in Bronx Park has been completely remodeled and is  
                                 now open to the public, says a report in the New York  
Times. Dr. William J. Robbins, director, explained in his annual re-  
port that the remodeled conservatory affords excellent facilities for  
indoor displays, especially of exotic plants. The herbarium added  
45,797 new specimens during the year, bringing the total to 1,933,506,  
the largest in this country, Dr. Robbins said. The attendance at the  
garden was the largest in its history.



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXII, No. 11

Section 1

January 17, 1939

## SOCIAL SECURITY

An overhauling of the federal system of social security, in the light of experience, was proposed to Congress by the President yesterday, says a report in the Baltimore Sun. At least four highly important changes are recommended by the President first, and then by the Social Security Board. The changes provide: legislation affording greater old-age security, either by beginning payments sooner, or by making proportionately larger federal grants; legislation modifying and eventually eliminating the agricultural labor limitation; elimination of the domestic service exception, but allowing a reasonable time for the change; and simplification of tax and reporting systems. It was also recommended "that service performed in the employ of the United States should be included, giving consideration to the effect on the retirement systems for federal employees."

## U.S. HEALTH PROGRAM

Heads of the American Medical Association yesterday informed President Roosevelt of their decision to go along with his plan to put adequate medical care within the reach of persons unable to pay for it. A delegation, headed by Dr. Irvin Abell, president of the A.M.A., informed the President of association approval of the main parts of his national health program, estimated to cost \$850,000,000 in ten years. Dr. Abell explained, however, that the A.M.A. was strongly opposed to a suggestion for compulsory sickness insurance. (Washington Post.)

## WORLD SUGAR EXPORT QUOTAS

A London report by the Associated Press says that because of "several uncertain factors," the world quotas for sugar exporting countries will remain unchanged in 1939, it was decided by the International Sugar Council, composed of 21 sugar importing and producing countries. The delegates decided the requirements of the world market for the year ending next August 31 would be at least 3,150,000 long tons of sugar from such countries as Cuba, Peru and others which grow more sugar than they consume. Exporting countries were instructed to maintain their last year's quotas, totaling about 3,150,000 long tons. Council figures showed the world market requirements for the year ended last August 31 exceeded exports to market by 77,000 tons.



**FCA Research  
Division**

An economic and credit research division has just been created in the Farm Credit Administration by transferring certain of the work heretofore done in the cooperative bank division of the Farm Credit Administration, thus giving this important work the status of a division, says F. F. Hill, Governor. "We have long felt that the regular research and service work which the Farm Credit Administration does in cooperative buying and selling among farmers should be a distinct feature and not be too close to the lending operations of the banks for cooperatives and we have also recognized that the importance of the work called for a distinct organization," said Mr. Hill. "Cooperative buying and selling among farmers has reached such proportions that the business of their associations constitutes a large part of the business of agriculture. There are now approximately 15,000 rural cooperatives in the country, including mutual water companies and insurance companies..." The director of this new division is Tom G. Stitt.

**Conservation  
of Soil**

The Kansas City Star (January 8) contains a long editorial on soil erosion control, which says in part: "The encouraging factor in the situation is that we are at last alive to our danger. An interesting publication by the United States Department of Agriculture, entitled 'To Hold This Soil,' by Russell Lord, tells of the work of the Soil Conservation Service toward halting what in the end might be a disastrous loss to this people. Erosion tests, experimental growth of soil-restoring crops, education of farmers and stockmen, development of processes for healing damaged areas, above all the drawing into closer co-operation of the workers of the soil, are included in the service of this bureau...The problem is so immense that only a bare beginning has been made on it. Mr. Lord writes: 'Our major conclusion is this: The soil must be governed, and so far as possible, self-governed. We must change our ways of land use, individually; and where that does not work, enforce change, if the peoples of localities concerned see the need and recognize the necessity for meeting it, through democratic decision and action. Surely land is vested with a public interest. But that does not mean that we must abolish private ownership to have land better treated.' Proof of this is contained in the fact that 50,000 farmers, owning  $8\frac{1}{2}$  million acres of land, already are working with the Conservation Service, while additional thousands are studying the plan and preparing to put it into operation on their farms."

**Construction  
Record**

New construction begun in the United States last month set a ten-year record, F. W. Dodge Corporation reported recently, listing contracts totaling \$389,439,000. Thomas S. Holden, vice-president in charge of the corporation's research division, said this record, unequalled since December, 1928, consisted solely of verified projects which were ready to go ahead immediately at the time of listing. The total figure is 86 percent higher than in December, 1937, and 29 percent above that of November, 1938. (A.P.)



**Farm Security Annual Report**      Nearly 200,000 needy farm families received rehabilitation loans, totaling \$65,068,016 in the past fiscal year from the Farm Security Administration, according to the annual report of Dr. W. W. Alexander, administrator. Since the program began in July, 1935, more than 649,000 families have received rehabilitation loans aggregating \$216,876,146. Most of the loans are not yet due, but \$52,000,000 has been repaid. Dr. Alexander noted that several policy changes had resulted from the experience of the past three years. More stress is now laid on encouraging careful farm and home management by borrowers. Better farm leasing arrangements are sought and group medical plans are sponsored to safeguard the health of borrowers. The Farm Debt Adjustment Service of the Administration helped 16,663 families to lessen their debts \$13,692,560 through individual negotiations with creditors. Dr. Alexander reported the completion of 2,952 community service loans to make heavy equipment, improved livestock sires and other group services available to 47,310 families in neighborhoods lacking them. Through the cooperation of State and local medical associations more than 100 medical service plans were organized throughout the country for borrowers. Construction activities on homestead projects, the report said, were marked chiefly by the evolution of new low-cost construction methods for rural housing which made it possible to build sturdy four and five room farm homes for \$1,050 to \$1,350 on several projects. (New York Times.)

**Erosion Machine**      A patent for a machine for combatting soil erosion, developed at Iowa State College, has been granted to Edgar V. Collins, says a report in the New York Times. The machine builds terraces on sloping pasture lands down which rain water would ordinarily form gullies and wash out the top soil. Hauled by a tractor or horses, in a single advance movement the machine makes a vertical cut in the sod, lifts up both strips of sod adjacent to the cut, moves a slice of subsoil beneath the sod from one side of the cut to the other, replaces the sod and firmly presses it into position, thus forming two water-retaining channels directly above a subsoil that has been loosened.

**Fertilizer Labeling**      "Shifts to high analysis fertilizers are creating a need for more exact labeling, including the content of the secondary elements in the mixtures, according to W.H. Ross and K.C. Beeson, fertilizer chemists of the United States Department of Agriculture," says an editorial in the American Fertilizer (January 7). "The nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium in a mixture are identified in the grade formula, but these grades do not add information as to other elements. Ross and Beeson give as an example the '14-9-5' grade which approximates an average of all the mixed fertilizers on the market. They analyzed this in comparison with an '8-18-10' grade offering exactly twice as much of the three principal elements. The higher grade includes no filler. Some ingredients are identical, but there are several substitutions of more concentrated chemicals--salts more nearly 'pure' in nitrogen, phosphorus, or potassium. For these three, the plant food



## Fertilizer Labeling (continued)

units are exactly doubled, but not for the secondary elements. Magnesium has increased only from 20 to 24 pounds per ton; calcium content has decreased from 202 to 176, and sulphur from 138 to 77 pounds. As the farmer will use only half as much of the concentrated fertilizer, these differences become even more significant..."

**Civil Service**            The Civil Service Commission announces the following  
**Examinations**       examinations: (Unassembled) Senior Field Representative, \$3800; Field Representative, \$3200; Apprenticeship Service, Division of Labor Standards, Department of Labor; (Unassembled) Assistant Wool Technologist, \$2600, Bureau of Agricultural Economics; (Assembled) Scientific Aid (Graphic Arts), \$1800, U.S. National Museum, Smithsonian Institution. Applications for the Field Representative positions must be on file by (a) February 14, if received from States other than those named in (b), (b) February 17, if received from the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming. Applications for the Assistant Wool Technologist and Scientific Aid positions must be on file by (a) February 13, if received from states other than those named in (b), (b) February 16, if received from the following states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

**Peach Borer**            D. M. Daniel, in Farm Research (January 1, New York  
**Control**            Experiment Station) reports a new liquid treatment for control of the peach borer. "The killing agent employed," he says, "is ethylene dichloride. It has been widely used in grain fumigation work for many years and the materials from which it is made are cheap and commercially available in large quantities. Ethylene dichloride is emulsified with potash fish-oil soap, diluted with water, and applied directly to any age peach tree. New York orchardists hail ethylene dichloride emulsion as a method which relieves them of the burden of peach borer control during the rush of harvest because it is effective at low temperatures; in fact it is more effective in cool weather than in hot weather and can therefore be used later in the fall than can paradichlorobenzene which requires a soil temperature of 60° F. or above to be effective. The ethylene dichloride emulsion has given excellent control in western New York when applied as late as the middle of November. It appears to be safer on young trees as well as more effective than paradichlorobenzene crystals. It has all the advantages of liquid application--it can be poured or sprayed with equally good results--and its cost is a little less than paradichlorobenzene crystals and considerably less than paradichlorobenzene-cottonseed oil emulsion."

**Dogwood**            Plans for planting 6,000 flowering dogwood trees in  
**Planting**            Potomac Park (Washington) have been approved by Public Works Administrator Ickes. He authorized an allotment of \$80,000 to the National Park Service for the work. Supt. C. Marshall Finnan of the National Capital Parks said the trees would create a place of rare beauty and attract countless visitors. Both white and pink varieties of dogwood will be used. (Washington Post.)



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Vol. LXXII, No. 12

Section 1

January 18, 1939

## PRESIDENT

### ON TAXES

President Roosevelt yesterday joined Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau in opposing processing taxes on farm commodities, says a report in the Washington Post. At the same time, he revealed he would again appeal to Congress to put an end to tax exemption for governmental securities and salaries. He will send a special message to Congress tomorrow, he indicated, renewing his request of last April that legislation be enacted to tax securities issued and salaries paid by the federal, state and municipal governments. The President disagrees with the view that a constitutional amendment is necessary to tax reciprocally the securities and salaries of the federal government and state and other local governments. Asked about processing taxes at his press conference, Mr. Roosevelt said they would fall in the class of a consumers' tax, and, as a result, unquestionably would be what he has called a "depressant".

## PAN-AMERICAN

### HIGHWAYS

A Santiago (Chile) report by the Associated Press says the third Pan-American Congress on Highways yesterday approved a series of recommendations to encourage the building and use of highways in the Americas. Projects recommended were: a highway fund to grant loans to governments contemplating construction of roads; facilitation of the importation of motor vehicles and parts; use of all income from taxes on gasoline and other fuels for construction of roads; a permanent institute of the Pan-American highway at Buenos Aires.

## N.J. PLANT

### QUARANTINE

The New Jersey Board of Agriculture in a quarantine proclamation yesterday forbid bringing into the state all budwood, all varieties of peach trees, and all plants of the chokecherry from parts of New York and the New England States. The cause of the quarantine, the department announced, was an insidious disease known only as "X" which already had been found on peach and chokecherry trees in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York. The department said New Jersey's peach crop averaged about 1,500,000 bushels annually. Shipments of peach and chokecherry trees from other than the infected areas must be marked with their point of origin before entry is permitted into New Jersey, it was explained.



Veterinary X-Ray Machine      One of the most important events to take place in the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, during the past year was the acquisition of a therapeutic X-ray machine capable of developing 220,000 volts. It was presented to the school at a cost of \$6,500 plus \$1,500 to train one of our staff in its operation. It is the finest and most powerful apparatus for treating animals in this country, and probably in the world. Only two other veterinary schools have such machines; one is in Vienna and the other in Prague. Several malignant growths in dogs have been cured by its use and it is hoped similar cases in other animals, as well as actinomycosis and other diseases in cattle may be cured likewise. The field for research and therapy is developing rapidly and will probably necessitate the establishment of a department of radiology in the school in the near future. We are pioneering in a new field in veterinary medicine. (Veterinary Medicine, February.)

Public Service Patents      "Publicly supported research institutions have a long standing problem of administering inventions and patents of their personnel for the greatest good of their supporting public," says an editorial in Agricultural Engineering (January). "That some progress is being made in arriving at sound policies is indicated in a paper which Leonard J. Fletcher presented before the Association of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities. Mr. Fletcher quoted various authorities, including a public institution, to the effect that public patents do not usually achieve the desired end. Simple devices which an individual can make for his own use, or as a small craft enterprise, will get into public use by way of the public patent. High-grade manufacturing, however, involves extensive investment in design and development for quantity production, in tooling up for production, in materials, labor, advertising, and sales effort, before any return is realized. The public patent offers no protection to this investment against other manufacturers capitalizing on it to duplicate the product at a lower cost and to capture the market with a lower selling price. The result has been that many useful articles dedicated to public use by public patents have been lost to the public through lack of a manufacturer...The bright spot in the picture is the growing concept that the public to be served by the patent system and publicly supported research is larger than the group of potential manufacturers of inventions resulting from such research..."

Canadian Reindeer      The first native reindeer herd to be established in the Northwest Canadian Territories is moving eastward to the Anderson River area, according to a press report from Ottawa. This 150-mile overland drive of about 800 reindeer away from the government herd near the Mackenzie delta marks another forward step in Canada's plan to establish reindeer ranching among the native population. The native herd consists of good average stock, the animals varying from



## Canadian Reindeer (continued)

young fawns of 1938 to animals several years old. This herd is being loaned to the natives until such time as it has increased substantially in size....In addition to lending the reindeer, the government is providing herd dogs and other equipment, as well as a quantity of rations to assist in maintaining the herders during the first year.

Senate, Both Houses received a message from the President  
January 16 transmitting an executive order establishing the Federal  
Real Estate Board (a member of which is to be from this  
Department) and providing for the maintenance by the Procurement Division of a current record of all Federal real estate: ref. to Senate Committee on Finance and House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds.

Both Houses received a message from the President transmitting a report of the Treasury Department reflecting expenditures made, obligations incurred, and the status of the emergency relief funds; ref. to Senate Committee on Appropriations and House Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments.

Both Houses received a message from the President recommending enlargement of the social security program; ref. to Senate Committee on Finance and House Committee on Ways and Means.

Both Houses received the annual report of the Central Statistical Board; ref. to Senate Committee on Commerce and House Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments.

Both Houses received from the Acting Secretary of Agriculture the annual report on control of incipient and emergency outbreaks of insect pests and plant diseases; ref. to Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry and House Committee on Agriculture.

The Senate confirmed the nomination of Francis W. Reichelderfer to be Chief of the Weather Bureau.

Mr. Hatch submitted several amendments which he intends to propose to H.J.Res.83, which are designed to keep political activities out of relief.

The Special Committee to Investigate Unemployment and Relief (under S.Res.36, 75th) submitted a report (S.Rept. 2).

The Senate received a letter from the Interior Department transmitting a proposal for the relief of disbursing officers, etc., from disallowances and charges on account of airplane travel; ref. to Committee on Claims.

Mr. Bulow said. ...."I desire to disclaim any responsibility as one of the proponents of S.570," the Agricultural Equality Act of 1939.

Mr. Walsh had printed in the Record a statement, issued at the request of the American Federation of Government Employees, on the merit system.

Mr. Stewart was assigned to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

House, Mr. Gehrmann spoke in favor of the purchase and  
January 16 distribution of surplus dairy products.

Mr. Plumley spoke in favor of Vermont's stand in  
the flood-control controversy.

The House adjourned until Wednesday, January 18.

Forest Service The Forest Service declared recently that if private  
Annual Report ownership of vast timberland domains was to continue the  
owners must conform to the Nation's forest policy. F.A.  
Silcox, chief forester, making his annual report to Congress, said the  
alternative was "more control over private forest lands." For more than  
300 years, he said, American forests have been "chopped, burned and de-  
pleted; instead of being cropped, they have on the whole been exploited  
and ravished." That must stop if the Nation is to avoid a "wood famine"  
and a flooded, eroded land, he asserted. A recent inventory of the Na-  
tion's forest resources indicated, the service said, that there are about  
462,000,000 acres of commercial forest lands. If properly cared for,  
this area, the service declared, should provide sufficient wood for the  
future. "On the forest land we have," Mr. Silcox said, "we need more  
and better forests to help underwrite industries dependent on them--  
sawmills, planing mills, re-manufacturing plants, furniture and other  
factories." (Associated Press.)

Cooperative "A cold-storage locker plant, built into a cooperative  
Locker Plant grocery, is one 'frozen asset' that's proving valuable to  
the Farmers' Union Cooperative, at Pella, Iowa, according  
to Reuben Schakel, manager," says News for Farmer Cooperatives (January).  
"Schakel said the locker plant not only tied his membership closer to  
the store but also brought city people into the farmer-owned cooperative  
in growing numbers...The Pella plant has 324 lockers, holding from 150  
to 250 pounds of meat each, and is constructed of the best material  
throughout. He warns against cheap construction and advises against  
building fewer than 300 lockers. Their plant cost \$8,000, which does  
not include the cost of a building to house it, since it was made a  
part of the grocery store already going. He will, he estimates, run  
30 carloads of livestock through those lockers in a year and, when all  
the lockers have been rented, will make a net saving each year in ex-  
cess of \$2,000. Revenue comes from renting lockers at \$10 a year and a  
charge of 1 cent a pound for processing the meat **that** comes in for storage."

Submarginal More than 1,000,000 acres of sub-marginal land were  
Land Program held under accepted options as of January 1 by the Soil  
Conservation Service under Title III of the Bankhead-  
Jones farm tenant act, H. H. Bennett, chief of the service, reports.  
Submarginal land is being acquired under this law as a means of restoring  
badly depleted submarginal lands to grass and forests, and in order to  
supplement other Federal, State and local measures to improve land use.  
These include soil conservation districts, co-operative grazing districts,  
and rural zoning ordinances. By the end of next June the service ex-  
pects to have approximately 2,100,000 acres of submarginal land under  
option. (Press.)



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Vol. LXXII, No. 13

Section 1

January 19, 1939

## COTTON PROBLEM

"An international conference on cotton, looking toward means of disposing of the big surplus stocks of this commodity, is being considered by the administration, it was disclosed yesterday," reports Gerald Griffin in the Baltimore Sun. "Seeking ways in which to assure a 'fair share' of the export market for American cotton, Secretary Wallace and other officials are hopeful that conference methods already applied to wheat and sugar may be utilized for cotton. Mr. Wallace and Senator John H. Bankhead (Ala.) discussed the possibility of such a conference yesterday with President Roosevelt. They said no decisions were reached and that no specific plans for a conference have been outlined, but emphasized that the cotton problem was 'very serious'..."

## STATE GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

"Secretary Wallace made it plain yesterday to legislative and executive representatives from forty states that in his opinion what was wrong with our farm economy lay in large measure within the power of the public and the farmers themselves to correct," reports Kathleen McLaughlin in the New York Times. "Alignment of national and state progress, he told the Council of State Governments, was a prime requisite in tackling the program effectively. Modification of an adverse public opinion in this country, which consistently restricted imports from foreign nations, he stated, should release buying power for our corn and wheat, to bring export totals once more within the scope of operations on which this nation prospered exceedingly. Until the opposition to imports was decreased, he maintained, this country's farm exports would remain behind the levels of the postwar years..."

## FOREST PURCHASES

The National Forest Reservation Commission recommended yesterday that Congress authorize purchase by the federal government of 25,066,877 acres of privately owned forest land to prevent the "social and economic decline" of people dependent on the land. Continuance of this land under private ownership, the commission said, might result in waste of such resources as timber, range, water, wildlife and recreational possibilities. The government already owns 15,672,572 acres of national forest land, the commission reported. (Associated Press.)



Cattle                      Evidence accumulates of a net increase in cattle  
Feeding                    feeding this season compared with last. More cattle are  
                             being fed in the Corn Belt, fewer in Western States--  
notably California and Colorado. Decreases are reported also in the  
Lancaster feeding area of Pennsylvania and Maryland, in Texas, and in  
Oklahoma. Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle from stockyards markets  
into the Corn Belt were 4 percent larger in July through November 1938  
than in the like period of 1937. They were the largest for the period  
in 7 years. November prices of these cattle were the highest for the  
month in 8 years. Direct shipments of feeder cattle (not going through  
stockyards) also have been large. Factors in the increased feeding are  
the large supplies and low prices of feed grains in nearly all Corn Belt  
States. (Agricultural Situation, January.)

"Agricultural              Agricultural Leaders' Digest (January) says in an  
Headliners"               editorial, "Agricultural Headliners": "As a frontispiece  
                             picture this time we show the Three Horsemen of Agri-  
culture, Henry A. Wallace, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture,  
M.L. Wilson, Under-Secretary of Agriculture, and Harry L. Brown, Assistant  
Secretary. It is a well balanced team to pull the administrative load  
of agriculture. Secretary Wallace of Iowa knows mid-west farming condi-  
tions like a book, is trained in scientific agriculture, is an outstand-  
ing economist and tariff authority and, as a former farm paper editor  
and publisher, knows farmers and the actual conditions of rural life.  
Under-Secretary Wilson, known to his friends as "M.L.", is likewise farm  
bred and agricultural college trained and used to be a star agricultural  
extension worker in Montana. Harry Brown, formerly Extension Director  
of Georgia, knows the real needs of the farmers of the Southland."

Synthetic                  K.D. Brase, in Farm Research (New York Experiment  
Growth                    Station, January 1) writes on synthetic growth substances  
Substances               as aids in plant propagation. He says in part: "The re-  
                             sults (of work at the station) have shown that some of  
the claims for synthetic growth substances are misleading. This is  
particularly true of root formation with soft wood cuttings of deciduous  
fruits. Attempts to root apple cuttings have not proved commercially  
practicable. Tests with the Montmorency sour cherry showed in 1937 that  
indole-acetic acid was ineffective, but indole-butyric acid solutions  
in concentrations of 1:15,000 and 1:50,000 for not more than 1 hour  
brought about root formation with cuttings taken in late June or early  
July. Identical tests in 1938 failed to bring about the same results.  
Soft wood cuttings of the Kieffer pear and Prunus tomentosa, which root  
well in the hands of a good propagator, showed slight increase in root-  
ing when treated. Treatments with indole-butyric acid 1:50,000 for  
2 hours or the application of the powdered form to the basal cut of cut-  
tings taken from a plum were still more strikingly benefited, the in-  
creased rooting being 62 percent with indole-butyric acid and 58 percent  
with the powder. Cuttings of Rosa multiflora and Paul's Scarlet climber,  
which root satisfactorily without special treatment, responded remark-  
ably to indole-butyric acid 1:50,000 as well as to the powder."



Clones in Forestry Ernst J. Schreiner, of the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, is author of a short article in the Journal of Forestry (January) on the possibilities of the clone in forestry. (The clone designates a group of plants which have originated by vegetative propagation from one individual seedling.) The author says in part: "The clone will eventually be of great importance to practical forestry because it offers definite advantages from the standpoint of uniformity of growth and development and the immediate availability of elite individuals for reforestation. It has been argued that extensive pure planting of single clones will increase the disease and insect hazard, but this can be eliminated, or at least greatly minimized, by planting a mixture of clones. Although the possibilities for rapid vegetative propagation of conifers may appear to be somewhat limited by the fact that commercially important species, such as white pine and spruce, do not sprout, and that the number of stems available for propagation would therefore not be very large, recent work with growth-promoting substances seems to indicate that methods to induce sprouting may be developed. On the basis of the relative rate of growth of seedlings and cuttings of deciduous trees it is possible that vegetative propagation of conifers in northern nurseries may produce stock large enough for out-planting in less time than seed propagation. For example, in the vicinity of New York City poplar seedlings grow to a height of only 6 to 12 inches during the first year, whereas cuttings will grow as much as 6 to 8 feet in height in one year. Cuttings offer a further advantage because the size of such out-planting stock can be regulated by the size of the cuttings used and the time of planting."

Motor Vehicle Inspection Compulsory inspection of motor vehicles is justified from the standpoint of increased safety, two different papers read before the Society of Automotive Engineers conclude. Figures presented by J. F. Winchester and J. J. Powelson of an oil company indicate that reduced accident tolls can in part be connected with rigorous inspection programs. Reduction in night fatalities in New Jersey, for example, they state, "can reasonably be attributed in large part to better average condition of headlights resulting from State compulsory inspection." Other figures lead to similar conclusions. "The present consensus of traffic and safety men is that inspection programs of this general type (periodic inspections costing not over fifty cents each) if competently administered, are worthwhile, not as a panacea for traffic accidents, but as a part of a general safety program," Sidney J. Williams, director of the public safety division of the National Safety Council, concluded. (Science Service.)

Plastics The U.S. plastics industry, which obtains 30 percent of its material from the farm, has jumped from a 1921 output valued at \$1,500,000 to a 1938 output valued at \$30,000,000. Plastics are also invading the furniture field and at least one national manufacturer is experimenting with the possibility of plastic houses. (Farm Journal February.)



Senate,                      The Senate confirmed the nominations of Frankfurter  
Jan. 17                      and Murphy.

Mr. Truman inserted in the Record an interesting letter from a farmer in northern Missouri opposing the AAA program.

The Senate recessed until Thursday, January 19.

The House was not in session.

Items in appendix: article from Washington Herald describing the work on the Harrisburg-Pittsburgh (Pa.) superhighway (inserted by Mr. Davis); letter from President Hildebrand of the U.S. Livestock Association, calling attention to the "destructive market effects of direct buying at private stockyards not subject to federal regulation" (inserted by Mr. Capper).

(Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Brown on                      Harry L. Brown, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture,  
Farm Aid                      told the National Retail Dry Goods Association this week  
that price fixing was the one alternative to the present  
crop control program designed to solve the nation's cotton surplus, says  
a report in the New York Times. Mr. Brown asserted that "to some business  
men the production control programs of this administration seem a sacrilegious  
interference with natural economic laws." Mr. Brown said that on  
the surface it would seem simple to abolish the government's loans and  
let the price of cotton sink to its natural level, but this would mean a  
further reduction in the already inadequate income of the cotton grower.  
"In view of the domestic and world situation," he said, "it (price fixing)  
may be the logical alternative to the present program. I feel it should  
be debated thoroughly and understood because it goes much further than  
any program we have ever had. I believe it is to the interest of business  
men to see that the present program works. It will work, provided it is  
as sound as I think it is, if it gets the proper support from all groups.  
The failure of the present program will not be followed by abandonment of  
farm aid. It will be followed by a program which is broader and requires  
more supervision of business."

Industrial                      From 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 persons available for  
Recovery                      industrial jobs will still be unemployed by private industry in 1940 if there is only a "normal recovery" from  
the 1937-38 decline, it was indicated recently in an article in the January issue of the Agricultural Situation, published by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. It was written by L. H. Bean, economic adviser of the AAA. Full employment, Mr. Bean said, will require a more sustained and more rapid recovery than the country ever has known. Projecting the course of industrial production over the next three years on the basis of previous recoveries akin to that following the recent depression, Mr. Bean said that if it follows the typical cycle it will go about 25 percent greater than the present level by the spring of 1940. But full employment, he adds, would call for a 50 percent increase. Under such conditions consumer expenditures for food were estimated at \$5,000,000,000 to \$6,000,000,000 greater, with probably half of the increase passed on to farmers. (New York Times.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXII, No. 14

Section 1

January 20, 1939

## TAXATION MESSAGE

President Roosevelt appealed to Congress in a message yesterday to wipe out the existing immunity from taxation of federal, state and local salaries and securities, and to outlaw retroactive taxation of employees and security holders of such quasi-government bodies as the Port of New York Authority. The retroactive taxation, he said, would result from a Supreme Court decision unless Congress intervened. The President contended that a fair and effective progressive income tax and a huge perpetual accumulation of tax-exempt bonds could not exist side by side, and, he added: "Those who earn their livelihood from government should bear the same tax burden as those who earn their livelihood in private employment." (Press.)

## STABILIZATION, DOLLAR VALUE

President Roosevelt asked Congress yesterday to extend for 18 months authorization for the government's stabilization fund and also his power to change the value of the dollar. The White House announced the request was made upon recommendation of Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau, Jr., in identical letters to Vice President Garner and Speaker Bankhead. Both the stabilization fund, created in 1934, and the dollar devaluation authority, granted in 1933, now are scheduled to expire June 30, 1939. Mr. Roosevelt asked legislation extending them to January 15, 1941. He wrote that the existence of these powers "has enabled us to safeguard the nation's interest and to carry forward international monetary and economic cooperation." (A.F.)

## FEDERAL AID FOR EDUCATION

Federal aid to education is the answer to the problem of millions of American boys and girls now receiving inadequate education or none at all, Dr. Howard A. Dawson, rural specialist for the National Education Association, said last night at the board meeting of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. He said there could be federal financial aid without undesirable federal control of education; that matters of school curriculum and personnel could be left to local authorities. Arguments for federal aid listed by Dr. Dawson included statements that it is within constitutional powers, is already in practice for land grant colleges and vocational education, that poor schools in any state affect all the states, and that inequalities of educational opportunities are not due to states' lack of effort, but to differences in financial ability to pay taxes. (A.F.)



Distilling                      Three workers of the nutrition laboratory, Massachusetts  
By-Products                      State College, report in Poultry Science (January) on a  
for Poultry                      study of the nutritive value of distillers' by-products.  
They say in conclusion: "From this study of the nutritive value of distillers' grain and concentrated slop, it is felt that the addition of 10 to 15 percent of distillers' grain or concentrated slop to poultry rations will provide a good source of vitamin B<sub>1</sub> and B<sub>2</sub> (riboflavin). These two vitamins are essential for optimum poultry growth and reproduction. It is emphasized that distillers' by-products should be a very economical source of these two vitamins in poultry or livestock rations. Because of their high ash content, distillers' by-products are likewise good sources of minerals. Dried buttermilk was also found to be a good source of vitamin B<sub>2</sub>."

Health and                      L. F. Easterbrook, in an article in the New Statesman  
Agriculture                      and Nation (London, December 17) discusses the relation  
   of health to agriculture. In the concluding paragraph he says there is one line of research that is badly needed, "investigations into the nutritive quality of what we produce. 'Every year,' the head of the research department of a big firm of chemists told me last month, 'we are producing more medicines to provide people with what they ought to obtain naturally in their food, but to an increasing extent are failing to do. They may be eating more food, but they certainly are obtaining fewer of the vital ingredients for good health with it. For this I blame bad farming, the excessive use of artificial manures, and the strain we are imposing upon our flocks and herds by pushing such things as milk and egg production beyond Nature's safety limit.' In America the consumer's revolt against such worthless food has begun and a start has been made in selling food on its vitamin and iodine content. In Lancashire a big egg buyer has refused to buy any more battery-produced eggs because he was having so many complaints that the eggs had no 'guts' or flavour in them. Here, surely, is the chance for British farmers to produce fresh food of guaranteed value and advertise it on selling points that none could challenge. We may very likely discover that good food can only be produced by good farming, and unless it is made possible for farmers to farm well with a balanced, rotational system of husbandry to keep both land and stock fertile and healthy, those who rightly stress the nutritional aspect of food production in this country would be defeating their purpose by too much insistence on the production of certain commodities, as well as making profitable farming impossible."

Interstate                      "It is a strange paradox that, while the Department  
Trade Tariffs                      of State has been working to reduce barriers to inter-  
   national trade, a thriving crop of restrictions upon commerce within our own country has sprung up," says an editorial in the Washington Post (January 18). "...Like many international trade barriers,



## Interstate Trade Tariffs (continued):

these restrictions are largely products of depression. To stimulate inactive industries various State legislatures devised means of cutting off competition from other States. But these moves frequently led to retaliation, to discriminatory taxation, boycotts and general ill-feeling between neighbor States. Undoubtedly the movement has been accentuated by the twenty-first amendment which prohibits the shipment of liquor across State lines in violation of State law...The States have found various other means of restraining trade at their borders. Butter-producing States lay prohibitive taxes on oleomargarine. Some of the States famous for their citrus fruits use inspection laws to stifle competition. Dairy interests are also sometimes protected under the guise of safeguarding the public health...Several restrictive devices of this sort, including the 'use tax' have been found to be constitutional by the Supreme Court in spite of the fact that the States are forbidden to lay tariffs. It is extremely difficult to draw the line between legitimate taxes and levies intended to handicap the products of other States. In many instances the only practical way to meet the issue seems to be through interstate co-operation. The Council of State Governments has already done some effective work along that line. As the public becomes more fully aware of the dangers to our national economy resulting from these short-sighted tactics, a great increase in the demand for the good offices of the council may be expected."

House,                      The Senate was not in session.  
January 18

Mr. Snyder spoke in favor of a system of transcontinental superhighways.

Messrs. Cummings and Crawford spoke on the sugar problem.

Messrs. Eberharter and Whittington spoke on States' rights with respect to flood control.

The House received the annual report for 1938 on the Federal-aid work of the Bureau of Public Roads: ref. to Com. on Roads.

The House received a letter from the Secretary of Agriculture transmitting a draft of a proposed bill to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act; ref. to Com. on Agriculture.

Assignments were made in part to the various standing committees, including:

Agriculture: Jones of Tex. (chairman), Fulmer, Dokey, Flannagan, Beam, Polk, Kleberg, Cummings, Pierce of Oreg., Owen, Cooley, Hook, Coffee of Neb., Zimmerman, Ferguson, and Iglesias. (Democrats only.)

Appropriations: Kerr, Mahon, Stefan, Case of S.D., White, McLeod, and Bolton. (Incomplete. Agricultural subcommittee has not yet been selected.)

Civil Service: Ramspeck (chairman), Sirovich, Randolph, Curley, Fries, Hampton, Kitchens, Moser, Mills, Grant, Beckworth, McMillan, Smith, and Gehrmann. (Democrats only.)



House, January 18 (continued):

Items in Appendix: Address by Mr. Snyder at dedication of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Arena.

Extension of remarks of Mr. Hobbs regarding the plight of producers of oils and fats.

Extension of remarks of Mr. Zimmerman about the tenant and share-cropper uprising in southeast Missouri. (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Vacreator                      The Pacific Dairy Review (January) reports the first  
Cream                      installation in the United States of the vacreator cream  
Pasteurizer                  pasteurizer, at Oregon State College. One of the inventors  
                                of the vacreator, which has been in general use in New  
Zealand and Australia for the past six years, will demonstrate this  
machine at the annual dairy products short course at the college next  
month. It has been placed in the college creamery for an experimental  
period of one year. "The vacreator might be described as an ultra  
vacuum pasteurizer, in which the cream is subject to steam distillation  
and subsequent cooling in the same machine and under partial vacuum condi-  
tions. It is built entirely of stainless steel, and has a maximum capa-  
city of 2500 pounds of cream per hour. The inventor has emphasized that  
the new apparatus is designed to improve the quality of butter that can  
be made from good quality cream, and that it is in no wise intended to  
take the place of the best sanitary methods in production and manufactur-  
ing plants."

Experiment                      "Agricultural experiment stations are big business  
Stations                      now," says an editorial in Des Moines Register (January 12).  
                                "The report of the chief of the office in the Federal De-  
partment of Agriculture estimates the funds available from state, federal,  
and other sources for American experiment stations in 1938 at something  
over 18 million dollars--six million from the federal government, 12  
million from the states; and smaller amounts from sales receipts and  
private endowments. The federal share is expanding, but in every case  
states more than fulfilled matching requirements. In setting up the  
eight new regional experiment stations in the last three years, the  
federal government in every case followed recommendations of local sta-  
tion directors and agriculture department workers in location, organiza-  
tion and general plan of work. An attempt is being made to increase the  
degree of contact and co-operation and division of labor among the local  
experiment stations. Things have changed a good deal since Thoreau  
ribbed his farmer neighbors for planting their corn and beans just as  
the Indians had done. Within a generation of Thoreau's death, an experi-  
ment station in Connecticut was doing important research in corn breeding  
which paved the way for the present scientific farming in Iowa."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXII, No. 15

Section 1

January 23, 1939

## WORLD COTTON CONFERENCE

President Roosevelt has endorsed the proposal of Secretary Wallace of the Department of Agriculture for a world conference of cotton-producing nations to define the proper share of each in the world cotton market, says a report in the New York Times. An international meeting to consider the question of cotton surpluses now burdening the world market would be a good thing, the President said. While he had not decided whether the United States should take the initiative in the matter, the President indicated that he was favorable to Secretary Wallace's plan.

## 1938 FARM CASH INCOME

Farmers in 1938 received a total estimated cash income, including government benefit payments, of \$7,632,000,000, the Department of Agriculture announces. This compares with a revised estimate of \$8,574,000,000 for 1937 and with \$7,944,000,000 received by farmers in 1936. Government payments last year totaled \$482,000,000 as compared with \$367,000,000 in 1937. This increase of 31 per cent helped to offset the decline in receipts from marketings, the department points out. (Press.)

## U.S. GRANGE ON FARMING

The executive committee of the National Grange recommended yesterday that Congress put a limit of \$5,000 on the annual total in farm benefit payments to an individual farmer or corporation. Under the present act a \$10,000 limit went into effect this year. "Our goal should be the preservation and prosperity of the family-sized farm," the Grange committee said. The committee asked amendment and simplification of the farm act, but did not make specific suggestions. It also asked for additional research on new uses for farm products, "honest branding" of foods and fibers, continuance of marketing agreements, low interest farm loans and a long-range policy of land utilization. (A.P.)

## WOOD PRESERVERS MEETING

Preservation and use of wood in private and governmental structures, from buildings to railroad ties and telephone poles, will be discussed at the thirty-fifth annual meeting of the American Wood Preservers Association (Washington) beginning tomorrow and concluding Thursday. At a joint meeting with government representatives tomorrow night F. A. Silcox, Chief of the Forest Service, will discuss the relation of wood preservation to the management of private and public forests. (Washington Post.)



Canadian Crop Tests            The (Canadian) crop testing plan this past summer concluded its eighth year of work, and 1938 demonstrated clearly that a decided improvement has taken place in the quality of field crops, states a report issued by Major H.G.L. Strange, director of the crop testing work in western Canada. Some of the old-fashioned poor quality, low yielding varieties are at last beginning to disappear from farmers' fields in western Canada. In the three prairie provinces 1,665 elevator agents are now actively assisting. Twenty-five thousand farmers' fields were tested the past year, and the agents themselves put in over 900 small demonstration plots which enabled farmers to see with their own eyes how the different varieties of wheat, oats and barley, grown in a pure state, behaved under differing climatic conditions. Two hundred cooperative yield test plots also were grown under careful supervision for the purpose of affording information in yield and milling and baking value to the Dominion Department of Agriculture. Farmers' wheat fields in miniature are grown so that with their own eyes they are able to see any impurities that are present in their crops, and experts are able to explain how these impurities lose money year by year. Last year a record was made for the distribution of high quality seed sealed in the sack, no less than 76,000 bushels being distributed at cost during the year to farmers by the elevator agents of the companies sponsoring the plan. (The Northwestern Miller, January 18.)

Mont. Water Conservation        "...Governor Ayers (of Montana) has just released the report of the state water conservation board on its activities up to date," says an editorial in Great Falls Tribune (January 7). "It shows that we are getting results in our efforts to increase the productive capacity of our land. The board started its first construction in 1935. It has since entered into co-operative projects with the PWA and the WPA for building 157 water projects, 136 of which have been completed. The board has encouraged the Reclamation Service, the Soil Conservation Service and the War Department to undertake other Montana projects. By the use of federal grants, water conservation bonds and state funds...there have been put under irrigation approximately 196,367 acres of land and 210,390 acres more will be watered when pending projects are completed. There has been or will be developed a new water supply for the Montana farmers of 536,785 acre feet."

Ayrshire Record            Barclay's Betty, a little brown 19-year-old Ayrshire cow weighing but 990 pounds, and owned by Strathglass Farm, Port Chester, New York, has established a new cumulative milk record for the Ayrshire breed by producing 177,207 pounds of milk and 6001 pounds of butterfat. Barclay's Betty has produced more milk per hundred pounds liveweight than any other known animal. Barclay's Betty is the mother of fifteen calves. The value of her offspring may be gathered from the fact that eleven of them have been sold for \$7440. Her registered descendants to the third generation are now owned by 106 breeders in 15 states and number 916 head, with more being added every week. (American Agriculturist, January 21.)



Senate, Both Houses received a message from the President  
January 19 urging removal of tax exemption from Government securities and salaries: ref. to Senate Com. on Finance and House Com. on Ways and Means (H. Doc. 113).

Both Houses received a message from the President recommending amendment of Public No. 545, 75th Cong., authorizing detail of Government employees to foreign countries; ref. to Senate Com. on Foreign Relations and House Com. on Military Affairs.

The Senate received the annual report of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission: ref. to Com. on Agriculture and Forestry.

House, The House began general debate on the First Deficiency Appropriation Bill, 1939. This bill contains the  
January 19 following Department of Agriculture items: Timber salvage and fire protection in White Mountain National Forest, \$500,000; timber salvage and fire protection in State, municipal, and private forests, \$3,000,000; insect and plant-disease control, \$2,000,000. The bill had been reported from the Committee on Appropriations (H.Rept.5).

Senate, Mrs. Caraway presented a joint memorial of the  
January 20 Arkansas Legislature, requesting establishment of a "soil erosion experimental station in Arkansas... in the Hanceville soil area"; ref. to Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

The Committee on Appropriations was authorized to report H.J.Res. 83, making appropriations for work relief and relief, during the recess of the Senate.

The Senate recessed until Monday, January 23.

House, The House continued debate on the First Deficiency  
January 20 Appropriation Bill, 1939.

An amendment by Mr. Hobbs, providing that the insect-control item be available for eradication of white-fringed beetles, was agreed to.

Amendments rejected: By Mr. McCormack: Increasing from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000 the item for fire protection and timber salvage in State, municipal, and private forests; By Mr. O'Connor: Increasing the insect-control item to \$3,300,000; By Mr. Case of S.D.: Increasing the insect-control item to \$5,417,000.

The House received the annual report of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (H.Doc. 115); ref. to Committee on Agriculture.

The House adjourned until Monday, January 23.

Items in Appendix: Extension of remarks of Mr. Hobbs, on the "plight of cottonseed producers in Alabama". Statements of Mr. Iglesias and other representatives of Puerto Rico before the "Committee for Reciprocal Trade Agreement with Cuba". Extension of remarks of Mr. Lenke, favoring "a nonpartisan cost-of-production farm bill". (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)



Electricity                      The Annals (January) contains "Rural Electrification for Farms                      in the United States" by John M. Carmody, Rural Electrification Administrator. He predicts that the national program of rural electrification will profoundly change the way of living in thousands of farm communities. "The drift of youth from the country to the city may be permanently halted as rural life is made more attractive," he says. "Rural youth is becoming increasingly conscious of lessened urban opportunities, and it will be interesting to measure the effect of rural electrification on the boy or girl who must decide between country and city. A wide field for future inquiry is being opened up by the acquisition of one or more radios by nearly every farm family securing electric service. Rural purchasing habits, cultural interests, political opinions, and modes of life are being changed by the radio. What will be the effects of bringing to the farm family's fireside the voices of presidents and dictators and a world-wide selection of entertainment and advertising? There can be little doubt that electricity will affect the trend of rural tenancy. The extent of the effect and the degree to which increasing rural electrification reduces the annual shifting from farm to farm will bear careful watching. Transferring some of the processing of farm products back to the farm where electricity may make the operation profitable would add to rural employment and so contribute to stabilizing the rural population. As yet, the adaptation of electricity to farm work is in its infancy. The high cost of electricity and the lack of the proper engineering development of equipment and methods have retarded progress, but as new equipment and methods are developed to utilize electricity in farming they may be expected to lessen its burdens and to bring about important changes in its techniques and rewards...The extent to which electricity can assist in the vital material problems of soil conservation and drought control is for the future to determine. More widespread irrigation may develop which will result in some irrigated crops on nearly every farm and will tend to produce more intensive farming on fewer acres..."

Calcium                              "From the Queen's University of Belfast, Ireland, for Poultry                      comes an interesting report of significant findings concerning the calcium metabolism of White Wyandotte pullets," says Harry W. Titus, National Agricultural Research Center. "Data were obtained during periods of 14 to 33 days before the individual pullets laid their first eggs and periods of 25 to 69 days thereafter. The facts obtained in this study suggest that it is a good practice to increase the calcium content of the diet about two weeks before laying begins. This may be done easily, as follows: About a month before the first eggs are expected, gradually change, during a period of about two weeks, from the growing diet to a laying diet that contains all the calcium necessary for egg production. Good growing diets usually do not contain enough calcium for egg production, and if the pullets are fed a diet that contains only a part of the necessary calcium, they may not get enough during this period, even though they have free access to oyster shell or limestone grit. The results of this study, as well as of some studies made in this country, clearly indicate that it is desirable to control the calcium intake of laying stock." (Country Gentleman, February.)



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Vol. LXXII, No. 16

Section 1

January 24, 1939

## GOVERNMENT RESEARCH

President Roosevelt commended "to the consideration of the Congress" yesterday a compilation of the activities of federal agencies in research. The report, prepared by the National Resources Committee, discussed federal research in medicine, agriculture, economics, etc. The committee recommended these steps: further study on work of the advisory committees which cooperate with federal research agencies and on research being done by states and municipalities; improvement in methods of recruiting research workers for government service; authorization for government research agencies to contract for cooperation with recognized private research organizations; financial support for international scientific meetings and encouragement of American participation in them; organization of government research so as to avoid the possibilities of bias; further interrelation of governmental research agencies by organization of central councils similar to those formed by private research. (A.P.)

## U.S. HEALTH PROGRAM

President Roosevelt submitted to Congress for "careful study" yesterday a comprehensive report recommending a long-range \$850,000,000 federal-state program to improve the nation's health. "The objective of a national health program," Mr. Roosevelt said, "is to make available in all parts of our country and for all groups of our people the scientific knowledge and skill at our command to prevent and care for sickness and disability; to safeguard mothers, infants and children; and to offset through social insurance the loss of earnings among workers who are temporarily or permanently disabled." The report, prepared by an interdepartmental committee named in 1935, included a proposal for compulsory health insurance, which is opposed by the American Medical Association. The report outlined a five-point program which, besides health insurance, called for: care of the medically indigent; new hospitals where needed or subsidization of existing hospitals; a national program of maternal and child welfare; diagnostic and treatment centers. (A.P.)

## TELEVISION DEMONSTRATION

A five-day demonstration of television, with high-definition images being broadcast from a mobile transmitter at the Agriculture Department to special receivers in the National Press Club (Washington) will begin Friday, according to announcement by Frank M. Russell, vice president of the National Broadcasting Company. (Washington Star.)



BAE Hog  
Forecast

Slaughter supplies of hogs in the current marketing year, which began October 1, probably will be at least 15 percent larger than in the 1937-38 marketing year, Bureau of Agricultural Economics forecast. This increase in market supplies is a reflection of the larger pig crops in 1938 than in 1937. The 1938 spring crop was 13 percent larger than that of a year earlier and the 1938 fall pig crop was 18 percent larger. The Bureau also reported that consumer demand for meats will be stronger this year than last. The effect of this improvement in demand on hog prices is expected to offset partly the effects of the increased supplies. The upswing in hog production last year reflects the abundant feed supplies, the high corn-hog price ratio and the low level of hog production in some areas, especially in the western corn belt, the BAE said. Present indications are that a further marked increase in the number of pigs raised will occur in 1939. (Wall Street Journal, January 21.)

Trade Facts  
and Imports

The frequent charge that reciprocal trade agreements have resulted in a flood of agricultural imports in recent years was strongly denied recently by Granville Woodward of the Division of Trade Agreements of the Department of State. "Trade agreements played only a small part in the increased importation of agricultural products which entered the United States during 1937, largely as a result of two factors, namely the demand for raw materials as a result of economic recovery and the severe domestic shortage of certain crops following the 1936 drought," he declared. Mr. Woodward pointed out that agricultural imports from the sixteen countries with which agreements were in effect declined 3 percent during the fiscal year, 1937-38, in comparison with 1935-36, whereas imports from non-agreement countries rose 4 percent, he said. For the same comparative periods, exports of farm products to agreement countries jumped 55 percent in contrast to an increase of only 3 percent to non-agreement countries. Other misconceptions which Mr. Woodward attacked are the claims that the trade agreement act is unconstitutional, that the agreements are in fact "treaties" and require confirmation by the Senate and that negotiations are in the nature of "star chamber" proceedings.

State Council  
Convention

President Roosevelt, in a message read to the convention of the Council of State Governments last week, warned that the perpetuation of democracy depends on practical demonstration that it "is the most efficient form of government." "The need in government everywhere, federal, state or local, is efficiency," Mr. Roosevelt said. "Only through practical demonstration that democracy is the most efficient form of government can we hope to perpetuate the institutions to which we all owe greatness." The President said he was



## State Council Convention (continued)

pleased that the council will consider "the problems of Federal-State cooperation in many fields of general activity," and praised discussions of "the growing menace of trade barriers between States". Some States were attacked by Governor Lloyd C. Stark, of Missouri, for "setting up vicious trade barriers which definitely impede the normal flow of productions from State to State". (Washington Post.)

**Civil Service**            The Civil Service Commission announces the following  
**Examinations**       examinations: (unassembled) Principal Informational Representative, \$5600; Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor; (unassembled) Biologist (Wildlife) \$3300; Associate Biologist (Wildlife), \$3200; Assistant Biologist (Wildlife), \$2600; Bureau of Biological Survey, Forest Service, and Soil Conservation Service; (assembled) Chief Topographic Draftsman, \$2600; Principal Topographic Draftsman, \$2300; Senior Topographic Draftsman, \$2000; Topographic Draftsman, \$1800; Assistant Topographic Draftsman, \$1620. Applications must be on file by February 20 for the position of Informational Representative, and by February 21 for the positions of Biologist or Draftsman, if received from States other than those named in (b), (b) by February 23 for Informational Representative, and by February 24 for Biologist or Draftsman, if received from Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, or Wyoming.

**Fur Farming**            "Returns on the first detailed survey of fur farming  
**Survey**                in the United States are coming in rapidly to the U.S. Department of Agriculture," says an editorial in Fur-Fish-Game (February). "By the end of November, 2,381 replies had been received to the 20,000 questionnaires sent to all reported fur farmers. The survey is directed by Frank G. Ashbrook of the Biological Survey...The survey aims to supplant estimates and guesses with concrete facts on the fur farming industry in this country. The bureau is anxious to uncover trends in fur farming...In the United States, fur farming is rapidly becoming an important farm enterprise. The annual income to fur farmers from the sale of pelts is now about \$12,000,000. This represents twenty percent of the total value of furs taken annually in the United States. The Bureau of Biological Survey estimates 300,000 silver fox and 200,000 mink furs will be sold by fur farmers this year. Other valuable fur-bearers produced in the United States include martens, fishers, wolverines, otters, and karakul sheep. The industry is all the more significant, Ashbrook points out, because it does not compete with any other kind of farming and utilizes land that is of little or no value for any other crop. The completed survey is expected to serve breeders, State conservation commissions and agencies such as the Federal Trade Commission and the Tariff Commission. The Biological Survey intends to use the information as a guide for research programs."



California                    "California's agricultural pro-rate act appears to  
Crop Law                    be in for thorough renovation if not repeal," says Business  
Week (January 21). "Dissatisfaction, centering chiefly on  
the way the law is administered by the various growers' committees set  
up for each crop (by the growers themselves), has culminated in an announce-  
ment that the state Chamber of Commerce is to make a complete study of  
the act and the results of its six years of operation. The more reason-  
able-minded critics of the law charge that the act encourages monopolistic  
control within certain commodity groups under aegis of the state. They  
don't like the fact that the director of the state pro-rate commission  
is appointed by the governor...There's also considerable dissatisfaction  
over financing. Money to operate pro-rate programs comes chiefly from  
sale of certificates to growers. This, critics point out, makes the  
commission free from the legislature but puts it in the position of ob-  
taining cash from the very groups it is supposed to regulate in the  
public interest."

Hybrid                    "Recently over 300 hybrid seed corn growers in Ohio  
Corn School                registered for a three-day school under direction of the  
                             crops department at Ohio State University," says an  
editorial in the Ohio Farmer (January 14). "Instructors were successful  
growers and plant breeders from the experiment station, college and  
U.S. Department of Agriculture. In addition other speakers gave advice  
on business and merchandising practices. Thus a big business goes to  
school, and the production of corn hybrids for seed has become a big  
business in Ohio. This past year's production will sell for something  
close to a million and a half dollars and is sufficient to plant about  
50 percent of the state's acreage of field corn. Thus out of the long  
hard years of quiet research work by the plant breeder and more years of  
testing and proving has come one of the biggest advances ever made in  
Ohio's agriculture. The right hybrid will definitely reduce production  
cost per bushel of the state's corn crop, will minimize certain hazards  
in connection with corn growing and will free many acres for planting  
in grass and other crops requiring less labor than corn."

Molasses                    "H.D. Bruhn, agricultural engineer at the University  
Silage Pump                of Wisconsin, has designed a pump for applying molasses to  
                             alfalfa in silage making which also serves as a measure of  
the flow of molasses," says Wisconsin Agriculturist (January 14). "Bruhn  
uses a pump of a special type, in which a rotor turns within a cylinder  
casing, with a slide cut-off separating the inlet and outlet parts. The  
innovation which Bruhn uses lies in placing a by-pass plate on the end  
of the pump opposite the driving end. By this means a definite part of  
the displacement of each revolution is by-passed to the intake side of  
the pump, thus making it possible to obtain an infinite number of rates  
of discharge at a given speed. If a small, inexpensive revolution counter  
is placed on the pump and a calibration chart supplied, then the operator  
may note the revolutions of the pump and the by-pass setting, and refer  
to the chart to determine the amount of liquid being pumped. To gauge the  
amount of molasses being applied to alfalfa, it is only necessary to read  
the amount of molasses pumped while a load is fed through the cutter."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXII, No. 17

Section 1

January 25, 1939

**FEDERAL-STATE HEALTH PLAN** Complementing President Roosevelt's message to Congress outlining a vast program of federal-state health activities, the Social Security Board, in its third annual report, declared yesterday that "promotion of the Nation's health is a major goal for the near future" and expressed the conviction this belief is shared also by the general public. "Except in years when unemployment is widespread, sickness is commonly the leading cause of social and economic <sup>in</sup>security," the board said. Insurance against temporary disability, it was said, might be patterned after unemployment compensation, while permanent disability, presenting a situation analogous to old age, might be met by extension of present provisions of the social security act. (Washington Star.)

**TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE** Making a determined stand in defense of private ownership and operation of railroads, the National Transportation Conference yesterday made public concrete proposals for improving the financial position of the railroads. The proposals, involving rate-making, federal financial aid, consolidation and reorganization of the railroads and relief from certain burdens and restrictions, will be submitted soon to Senate and House committees now considering railroad legislation.

**PHILIPPINE TRADE PLAN** A formula under which the United States would continue to give certain trade privileges to the Philippines for fifteen years after the Islands attain political independence in 1946 was sent to Congress yesterday by President Roosevelt. In a brief message, he expressed approval of the program, drawn up by a committee appointed by him and by President Quezon of the Philippines. To maintain economic stability in the Islands, the committee advised against withdrawing all trade preferences in 1946, suggesting instead a gradual withdrawal between that year and 1960. After that, the Philippines would be subject to the same American tariffs as other nations. (A.P.)

**TRADE RESOLUTION** A resolution to declare it to be the sense of the Senate that reciprocal trade agreements negotiated under the trade agreements act of 1934 were, in effect, treaties and subject to ratification by the Senate, was introduced by Senator O'Mahoney yesterday. (Press.)



Senate, The Senate confirmed the nomination of Harry L.  
Jan. 23 Hopkins to be Secretary of Commerce by a vote of 58 to 27.

Both Houses received the President's message recommending a national health program (H.Doc. 120).

Both Houses received the President's message transmitting a report entitled "Research--A National Resource," compiled by the National Resources Committee; referred to Senate Committee on Education and Labor and House Committee on Ways and Means. "This report deals with the relation of the Federal Government to research. Subsequent reports in this field will cover research by colleges, universities and foundations, by business organizations, by the industrial laboratories, and by the state and municipal governments." (H.Doc. 122.)

Both Houses received the annual report of the Secretary of Agriculture on operations under the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act; referred to Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry and House Committee on Agriculture.

The Senate received the report of the Joint Committee on Phosphate Resources. (S.Doc. 21.)

The Committee on Appropriations reported with amendments H.J.Res. 83, making appropriations for work relief and relief, fiscal year 1939. (S.Rept. 4.) (Printed in two parts, giving majority and minority views.) As reported the total amount remains at \$725,000,000, the prohibition against FSA employees being placed under civil service remains, and provisions were added which are designed to prevent politics in relief. This joint resolution was made the unfinished business of the Senate. Mr. Wheeler submitted an amendment which he intends to propose to first deficiency Bill, 1939, to increase the insect control item from \$2,000,000 to \$5,300,000.

The Senate received the following estimates for payments of claims; referred to Committee on Appropriations: claims for damages to privately owned property (S.Doc. 9);

claims allowed by General Accounting Office (S.Docs. 10, 13, 17); judgments rendered by Court of Claims (S.Doc. 11); judgments rendered by district courts (S.Doc. 12).

House, The House passed H.R. 2868, the First Deficiency /  
Jan. 23 Bill, 1939. No Department of Agriculture items were debated. As passed the House this bill contains the following items for this Department: fire hazard and timber salvage in White Mountain National Forest, \$500,000; fire hazard in state, municipal, and private forests (New England) \$3,000,000; insect and plant disease control, \$2,000,000.

The remainder of the minority members of the standing committees were selected. The complete membership of the House Committee on Agriculture follows: Jones of Texas (Chairman), Fulmer, Doxey, Flannagan, Beam, Polk, Kleberg, Cummings, Pierce of Oregon, Owen, Cooley, Hook, Coffee of Nebraska, Zimmerman, Ferguson, Hope, Kinzer, Gilchrist, Andresen, Hoffman, Lord, Lemke, Brewster, Johnson of Illinois, Murray, King, Iglesias. The complete membership of the agricultural subcommittee of the House Committee on Appropriations follows: Cannon of Missouri (Chairman), Tarver, Leavy, Terry, Lambertson, Dirksen.



Items in Appendix: address by Donald Comer before Farm Bureau Federation, Agriculture in the South; extension of remarks of Mr. Buck, Increase in Our Agricultural Exports Due to Reciprocal Trade Agreements. (Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Veterinary  
Profession

The North American Veterinarian (February) comments editorially on an article by J. D. Ratcliff in Collier's (November 19). Quoting from the article, the editorial says: "Next time you are in a food store pause and look admiringly at the meat and dairy counter. Bound up in the glass and chromium cases there is a story of science triumphant, as glowing as anything that ever issued from a laboratory. The parsley decorated steaks are probably tender...The lamb chops are cheap enough to indicate plenty. This is another way of saying that sheep diseases have been held in check. The pork shoulders are almost surely free of trichinae, the ugly little eels that imbed themselves in man's muscles, and the milk is happily uncontaminated with Brucella abortus, the microorganism that gives human beings undulant fever. For making these things so, you can thank a doughty little band of cow, sheep and hog doctors who have put on a magnificently coordinated campaign to make the United States the safest place in the world for a farm animal...Men from the Bureau of Animal Industry can't go about asking cows and hogs how they feel...They have to rely on external signs...The Bureau of Animal Industry justly deserves all the credit that is given them by Ratcliff. But it is also fitting that a word be said in behalf of Mr. Private Practice Veterinarian who hasn't a government job but whose individual contribution was necessary to carry disease control projects to such highly satisfactory achievements..."

Phosphate,

Vast stores of phosphate rock in the Tennessee Valley may become available to farmers for fertilizer at a cheap price as the result of the development of a simple "fusion steam" method of ridding the rock of fluorine. The new process is described in a patent granted to Raymond L. Copson, TVA research worker. Phosphate rock containing a large amount of fluorine is not a satisfactory plant food, and attempts have been made before to separate the fluorine, a corrosive, from the rock.

By-products of the dairy industry, lactose or "milk sugar" and lactic acid, are the ingredients which go into a new water-resistant synthetic plastic developed in the laboratories of the Bureau of Dairy Industry of the Department of Agriculture, according to a patent granted to Paul D. Watson, a bureau chemist. The new resin is said to be valuable for coating purposes.

(New York Times.)



Poultry  
Breeding

Donald L. Robertson, Agricultural Editor, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, writes in Poultry Tribune (February) on what he says is a "new and different poultry breeding project" in Alabama. "On October 1," he says, twenty-four of the leading poultrymen of Alabama sent to the Institute 52 of their best pullets to begin a record of performance test...The Auburn R.O.P. project, as it is called, is a cooperative breeding program conducted jointly by the Alabama Poultry Breeders, Inc., the Alabama State Department of Agriculture and Industries, Alabama Extension Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The project is based on the genetic fact that high egg production is transmitted from hen to son and son to daughter. In other words, high egg production will be built around the son, since, strange as it seems, genetically the high producing hen does not transmit her high egg laying ability to her daughters. The 24 breeder members of the Alabama Poultry Breeders, Inc., have sent in their best pullets and these birds will be trapnested for a 12-month period. All the birds making a minimum R.O.P. record during the year will be retained at Auburn and mated to male birds from high producing females. A year from October 1, these 24 poultrymen will send 26 additional pullets to qualify as breeders for the next and succeeding years. The individual hens retained at the poultry plant at Auburn for the second and later years will continue to be trapnested. The eggs will be individually marked and incubated. On the eighteenth day of incubation all the eggs from an individual hen will be put in a wire pedigree basket. As the chicks come from the incubator, each will be wingbanded and an official record made of the ancestry..."

U.S.-Alaskan  
Highway

"There is a great deal of merit in the proposal that the Alaskan-International Highway be extended from Seattle through Canada to Fairbanks," says an editorial in the New York Times (January 22). "...The road proposed would be a free-flowing artery between the parent United States and an Alaska 'orphaned' by geographic remoteness...During the recent months members of the United States International Highway Commission appointed by President Roosevelt have studied the problem of the new road. They will meet in the spring with a similar Canadian group to discuss financial quotas. New airports and air commerce regulations, tariffs and labor restrictions also will be considered..."

Wheat Futures  
Court Ruling

Losses suffered in speculating in wheat futures may not be recovered under the Illinois gambling statutes, Circuit Court Judge Feinberg ruled recently. The court dismissed a suit filed against a brokerage house by Mrs. Myrtle Salzman, who contended that she lost \$25,000 in speculating. Under previous court decisions, marginal grain futures purchases were held to be gambling transactions if the purchasers did not intend to take actual delivery of the grain. (A.P.)



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Vol. LXXII, No. 18

Section 1

January 26, 1939

## U.S.C.C. FARM CONFERENCE

Spokesmen for farming and allied industries, meeting with the Agricultural Committee of the United States Chamber of Commerce yesterday, came to general agreement on a new farm program providing direct subsidies to farmers, divorced from production controls, crop loans and "expensive" administrative overhead costs. The idea back of the agreement, according to George H. Davis, president of the Chamber of Commerce, was that farmers should be subsidized on the parts of their basic export crops which are consumed domestically as a compensation for the high tariffs reflected in all that they buy. It was agreed, he said, that the subsidies should be sufficient to give to producers parity prices on the affected crops domestically consumed. He added that it was believed that this would cost less than the estimated \$600,000,000 a year now being spent in farm benefits. (New York Times.)

## PHOTOGRAPH EXHIBIT

More than 300 outstanding photographs from all parts of the world were put on display in the 1939 Kodak Exhibit at the Willard Hotel (Washington) yesterday, to remain through Sunday. As a departure from the strictly salon type of exhibit, there are several educational displays which demonstrate the difference in speed and graininess of various films, the effects of different filters and the proper use of different contrast grades of paper. Three lectures on photography will be given by Herbert Johnson, well-known amateur photographer, at 8 o'clock tonight and 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday. A new sound film, High Lights and Shadows, which dramatizes the development of photography, will be shown. The exhibit will be open from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. (Washington Star.)

## FOREIGN TRADE

The Commerce Department announced yesterday that American business men sold \$1,133,567,000 more goods abroad than they bought from foreign sources in 1938. Merchandise exports totaled \$3,094,095,000 and imports \$1,960,528,000. In 1937 exports of \$3,349,167,000 were only \$265,599,000 in excess of imports. The department said that the great rise in the country's export excess came primarily from larger shipments of food products. Every type of agricultural commodity was sold abroad in larger quantity in 1938 than in 1937 except raw cotton, purchases of which were curtailed last year by Japan, heretofore one of the principal foreign customers. (A.P.)



Film Fire                      Asserting that one of the greatest fire hazards in  
Hazard                      federally occupied buildings in Washington are nitrocel-  
                                 lulose moving picture, photographic and X-ray films, the  
Federal Fire Council, in its report to the President, recommends the con-  
struction of a central storage building for non-active film that may be  
worth preserving and for active and semi-active film material used by  
agencies lacking adequate storage facilities. The committee also recom-  
mended that the handling wherever possible <sup>be limited</sup> to trained personnel familiar  
with the hazards involved and that acetate film stock be used wherever  
practicable. The committee, which is made up of representatives of all  
departments that control activities involving appreciable fire hazard  
to life and property, is headed by Dr. Lyman J. Briggs, director of the  
Bureau of Standards. (Washington Star.)

Farm Real                      For the second successive year since 1929 farm real  
Estate                      estate holdings of leading mortgage lending institutions  
                                 such as units of the Farm Credit Administration, state  
mortgage credit agencies and life insurance companies have shown a re-  
duction, according to F. F. Hill, Governor of the Farm Credit Administra-  
tion. "These institutions sold more farms than they acquired during 1937  
and thus reduced their real estate inventories," said Governor Hill.  
"When insured commercial banks' holdings are included with the federal  
land banks, land bank commissioner and state credit agencies, investment  
in farm real estate amounted to \$1,058,670,000 on January 1, 1937, but  
was reduced to \$1,027,626,000 by the first of last year. Farms and  
sheriffs' certificates temporarily in the hands of the federal land  
banks on the first of this year represented an investment of \$115,600,000  
compared with \$118,200,000 on January 1, 1938. Holdings by the federal  
farm mortgage corporation, however, continued to increase during 1938  
and on January 1, 1939, amounted to \$23,900,000, or about 3 percent of  
the loans outstanding. Liquidation of mortgage loans by all creditors  
through sale at foreclosure were at the estimated rate of 28 farms for  
every 1,000 mortgaged farms in 1934. The foreclosure rate declined gradu-  
ally in 1935 and 1936. During the year 1937 foreclosure sales amounted  
to about 19 out of every 1,000 mortgaged farms. Based on reports received  
for the first nine months of 1938, the annual rate for the whole year is  
estimated to be about 17 out of every 1,000 mortgaged farms."

Utah Medical                      Utah Farmer (January 10), describing the San Juan  
Cooperative                      County Medical Cooperative Association, says: "The county  
                                 covers 8,000 square miles and has a population of 3,400.  
Until the new medical cooperative was organized in May 1938 San Juan resi-  
dents were not only unable often to finance individual medical care but  
there was not even a doctor or nurse in the entire county...Civic leaders,  
public health agents, church leaders and the county supervisor of the  
Farm Security Administration learned...that if 100 families could pay \$25  
a year into a general fund the doctor would engage to provide medical  
service to every member of every family during a year and would hire an



assistant to make his permanent residence in the town of Monticello (the doctor was a hundred miles away in Grand County). For an additional \$10 a year the Grand County Hospital engaged to provide full hospital care for contracting families <sup>at \$1 a day. Since May, 211 families</sup> have enthusiastically joined the San Juan County Medical Cooperative Association and paid \$25 or \$35 for a year's services. In some cases this money has been loaned to association members by the FSA, who provides the fees to its rural rehabilitation clients upon their agreement to accept the money as a supplement to their standard rehabilitation loans..."

#### Trends in Dairying

A recent study of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics shows how the dairy industry has grown from fewer than 11,000,000 cows in the 1870's to about 25,000,000 now.

Largest expansion, in both numbers of cows and in production of manufactured dairy products, has been in the west north central states. In the 1870's this region had about 16 percent of all the cows; now it has nearly 28 percent. In the 1870's the west north central states manufactured 14 percent of the dairy products; now this region manufactures 35 percent. The study reveals that nearly 24 percent of the approximately 25,000,000 milk cows in the country are in the east north central states, about 20 percent in the south central states, 13 percent in the North Atlantic states, 9 percent in the western states and 8 percent in the South Atlantic States. A somewhat different distribution of manufactured production of dairy products is shown. The west north central states lead with about 35 percent, followed by the east north central group with 30 percent, the south central states 13 percent, the western states 12 percent, North Atlantic states 6 percent and South Atlantic states 5 percent. (Hoard's Dairyman, January 25.)

#### Graded Beef Popular

"Gradually the public is being educated to buying beef on a quality basis and from now on the tastes and discrimination of the consumer will weigh more heavily in the success with which farmers are able to market beef of different kinds," says F. J. Keilholz, extension editor, University of Illinois, in Country Gentleman (February). "This is brought out in the first study of its kind conducted by members of the livestock marketing and meats division of the College of Agriculture in Illinois. After interviewing 400 retail meat dealers in the state, the investigators found that enough consumers have now become so discriminating in their purchases that more than one quarter of the dealers are handling either government graded or packer branded beef exclusively. Only sixteen out of the 400 retailers were found to be handling beef unstamped either with a government grade or a packer brand. Already the selling of beef on a quality basis has progressed to the point where nothing but cuts stamped with government grade are being handled by almost 18 percent of the retail meat shops visited by these men in Chicago."



Senate,                      The Senate began debate on H.J.Res.83, making appro-  
January 24                      priations for work relief and relief. No votes were taken  
                                 on amendments. Mr. Davis submitted an amendment he in-  
tends to propose which is designed to keep politics out of relief.

The Joint Committee to Investigate the Tennessee Valley Authority submitted a preliminary report (S.Doc. 22).

Mr. Overton had printed in the Record a resolution of the Louisiana Farm Council opposing the present sugar control program: ref. to Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

Mr. Lucas was appointed to the Joint Committee on Government Organization.

House,                      Mr. Gifford spoke in favor of economy in Government  
January 24                      expenditures.

Items in Appendix: Article by A. W. Ricker in Minnesota Leader, "What Will Congress Do for the Farmer."

Statement by executive committee of the National Grange on current agricultural problems.

Speech by Mr. Keller in the House, January 13, favoring the relief appropriation.

Extension of remarks of Mr. Ludlow, "What's the Matter With New England," opposing appropriations for fire hazard and timber salvage.

(Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

New England                      New England is making appreciable progress under the  
Timber Salvage                      chief of the United States Forest Service, Ferdinand A.  
                                 Silcox, in salvaging timber felled by the hurricane of  
last September, says a Boston report in the New York Times. The amount  
of salvageable timber is now placed at 1,600,000,000 feet, which would  
be equivalent to the normal cut of four or five years. The hurricane  
confronted these States with two emergency problems, a serious fire  
hazard and the necessity of making prompt provision for the salvaging of  
the "down timber" in a vast and very valuable forest area. Mr. Silcox,  
Harry Hopkins as WPA Administrator, and Robert Fechner, director of  
emergency conservation work, devised a plan for using all the CCC camps  
in the area for quick service and obtaining men from the WPA. The coming  
of winter abated the fire hazard for a few months, but in spring the  
tangled masses of timber over many thousands of acres again will become  
a peril. The President made Mr. Silcox administrator of the Northeastern  
Timber Salvage Administration.

Pan-American                      Washington parks will become a proving ground for  
Plant Exchange                      many varieties of exotic South American shrubs, vines and  
                                 flowering plants this summer as a result of President  
Roosevelt's visit to the Pan-American Conference in Buenos Aires, <sup>in 1936.</sup> The  
President's visit set in motion international co-operation which will  
bring new varieties of South American hibiscus and other plants to cities  
of the United States, while North American evergreens will be sent for  
planting in South American parks. Malcolm Kirkpatrick, office of National  
Capital Parks, and Dr. L. C. Corbett, Bureau of Plant Industry, were se-  
lected to make the study and spent several months in Chile, Argentina,  
Uruguay and Brazil. (Washington Star.)



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Section 1

January 27, 1939

**TAXATION PROPOSAL** Enactment of a measure to provide for reciprocal taxation by state and federal governments of the salaries of their employees, was urged before the Ways and Means Committee yesterday by officials of the Treasury and Justice Departments. The bill would be part of the program contained in President Roosevelt's message to Congress asking that legislation be passed looking to the taxation of income from future federal and state bond issues and salaries of employees of all. (New York Times.)

**TRANSPORTATION COMPETITION** W.M.W. Splawn, Interstate Commerce Commissioner, said yesterday a functional reorganization of the ICC and extension of its authority to all interstate shipments would go far toward eliminating "cutthroat competition" among transportation agencies. Testifying in support of a general transportation bill, Splawn told the House Interstate Commerce Committee that all freight and passenger rates were being driven downward by unregulated competition. (A.P.)

**TELEPHONE SERVICE** Some 2,500,000 rural families face loss of 24-hour telephone service unless the wages and hours law can be amended or Elmer F. Andrews, administrator, changes his present ruling so that these companies will be exempt from the law, according to B. L. Fisher, president of the United States Independent Telephone Association, representing 12,000 exchanges. Fred Brenkman, legislative agent for the National Grange, representing 800,000 farmers in 36 states, also asserted yesterday that the law will have to be amended to obtain the exemption for processors and food handlers in rural farm areas who it was intended should be relieved of the burden of the act. (New York Times.)

**R.F.C. AIDS EXPORT BANK** The Reconstruction Finance Corporation disclosed yesterday that it had furnished a fresh supply of money to the Export-Import Bank for loans to stimulate United States trade with Latin America, the Orient and other parts of the world. The RFC, which already owned \$20,000,000 of the \$21,000,000 capital of the bank, bought an additional \$25,000,000 of preferred stock in the institution. (A.P.)



World Wheat  
Estimate

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics has estimated that world wheat production this season, excluding Soviet Russia and China, will be about 4,455,000,000 bushels, a slight increase from the 4,448,000,000 bushels estimate made a month ago. On the basis of a carryover of 595,000,000 bushels since last July and net exports from Russia estimated at 40,000,000 bushels, supplies for the current season total 5,090,000,000 bushels, the BAE said. If disappearance, because of lower prices, is moderately increased over last year to about 3,860,000,000 bushels, the total carryover on July 1, 1939, may be about 1,230,000,000 bushels, the largest on record, the BAE stated. The bureau said changes in the domestic price of wheat during the next few months will depend largely upon total European wheat purchases and on importers' purchases of U.S. wheat. If European demand remains about as now indicated, the newly harvested southern hemisphere crop may be expected to depress wheat prices in importing countries. The amount of the spread of prices in domestic markets above world levels will continue to depend largely upon government purchases for export and upon prospects for the 1939 domestic crop. (Wall Street Journal.)

Injection  
of Plants

The Gardeners' Chronicle (London, December 31) in an editorial on plant injection, says in part: "Dr. W. E. Roach for the past seven years has been carrying out experiments in plant injection at the East Malling Research Station...The injection of a substance into a plant may be done in several ways and on different organs. The substance may be injected in solution or the sap of the plant itself may be allowed to lap up the substance supplied in powdered form. Pressure may be used or the natural suction which occurs in the vessels of plants may be utilized. Either the cut-off stump of a stem may be used or the tip of an intact leaf...The most interesting of the many experiments described by Dr. Roach are some he did on apple trees suspected of suffering from incipient chlorosis. Previous experiments had shown that chlorosis can often be cured by iron salts, and had also shown that the cure takes place although there is plenty of iron in the soil and in the plant; the conclusion being that in some soils, often rich in lime, iron is converted into some form in which it cannot do its work of catalysing the formation of chlorophyll. At East Malling it was suspected that this state of affairs was due to humus starvation. The results of injection appear to confirm this assumption..."

Vermont  
Farmer

Fortune (February) contains an article, "A Vermont Farm... to which Deane Hoisington, the owner, gives sixteen hours' labor every day and from which he takes independence and a good living but no cash profit." The article is illustrated with reproductions from colored paintings. "A living," says one paragraph in the article, "means good food, good clothing, a good house, freedom from debt, independence, self-respect, electricity, a car, radio, refrigerator, occasional movie, schooling and doctoring."



Idle Land-- "Bearing the title 'Idle Land--Idle Men,' a pamphlet  
Idle Men recently published by the Minnesota State Planning Board  
contains much to inspire thought," says Nature Magazine  
(February). "Based upon material gathered by the Lake States Forest Ex-  
periment Station of the U. S. Forest Service, this booklet deals with a  
great area of cutover, vitually waste land of northeastern Minnesota.  
Here is a region stripped of its original timber resources, unable to  
support the remaining residue of population and constituting a serious  
social and economic problem. It offers a splendid opportunity for planned  
reconstruction, and there are many other areas in the United States in  
similar plight. This booklet is worth reading."

Agricultural A staff correspondent of the Chicago News (January 18)  
Research comments in a Washington report on the "ever growing field  
of scientific agriculture" for high school and college  
graduates. "Reports coming to Washington of achievements by agricultural  
chemists and engineers, by biologists, economists, botanists, horticul-  
turists and other specialists in the broad range of agricultural and re-  
lated sciences, indicate that the farm, forest, orchard, dairy, stock  
farm, drainage areas, wildlife, roads and bridges, housing and other fac-  
tors of the general agricultural problem present fascinating opportuni-  
ties for the research man," he says. "They also appear to hold the pro-  
mise that agriculture will increasingly demand the services of specialists  
in many branches of science...Every state has its agricultural research  
organization and the Federal Government has active research laboratories  
in every state, all cooperating with the local organizations. Numerous  
large industries that manufacture agricultural implements, fertilizers,  
insecticides, stock feed, farm appliances of all kinds and other staples  
for the use of farmers have their own research facilities and some of  
them vie in size and importance with the more important of the industrial  
research laboratories. The chemist has become the 'ace' of agricultural  
research for chemistry has been associated with nearly every line of ag-  
ricultural progress..."

Creosote Creosote is now being applied so effectively that  
Preserves telephone company engineers are able to keep telephone  
Poles poles free of decay long after the poles themselves be-  
come obsolete. They are able to do this even though they  
are today using two-thirds as much of the sticky black preservative as  
formerly and the woods now used for telephone poles are more difficult  
to treat successfully, C. H. Amadon of the Bell Telephone Laboratories  
told the American Wood Preservers Association this week. New specifica-  
tions of the telephone companies, that 85 percent of the sapwood must be  
penetrated by the creosote, has added 10 percent to the treatment cost,  
but has increased the life of the poles five times. Protection of the  
sapwood, which is the outside layer and in the commonly used yellow  
pine poles is three inches thick, is the key to decay prevention. (Sci-  
ence Service.)







# DAILY DIGEST

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Section 1

January 30, 1939

## GOVERNMENT

### LOAN COTTON

The Administration intends to ask Congress for authority to give to growers upwards of 4,000,000 bales of the cotton now sealed in warehouses under government loans, it was learned yesterday. Farm officials were said to have decided on the proposal because of an apparent scarcity of cotton supplies available for manufacture and export. Although this season's supply of American cotton totaled 25,500,000 bales--the largest on record and sufficient to supply normal needs for two years--more than 11,000,000 bales, much of it in the better grades, has been pledged by borrowing farmers as collateral for loans totaling more than \$500,000,000. (A.P.)

## FIRST BIG

### GAME CENSUS

The big game animals loose in this country number more than 5,000,000, according to the Bureau of Biological Survey, which reported day before yesterday the results of the first "census" of this kind taken in the United States. The survey was made in cooperation with the National Park Service, Forest Service, state game and conservation commissions and other informed quarters. Deer led with more than 4,500,000, and others came in this order: elk, 165,000; antelope, 130,000; black bear, 81,000; peccaries, 43,000; bighorn sheep, 17,000; moose, 13,000; buffalo, 4,100; grizzly bear, 1,100; and European wild boars, 700. (New York Times.)

## CANADIAN

### WHEAT CROP

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported yesterday that final official estimates of the 1938 Canadian wheat crop placed production at 350,010,000 bushels, compared with 180,210,000 produced in 1937. The crop was said to have been the largest since 1932. Spring wheat totaled 330,196,000 bushels and winter wheat, 19,814,000 bushels. The quality of the crop was said to have been better than that of 1937. (A.P.)

## RAIL MERGER

### PROPOSED

Joseph P. Eastman, Interstate Commerce Commissioner, said day before yesterday that he believed the government would have to supply the "outside propulsion or compulsion" needed to eliminate duplication and waste in the railroad industry, according to a Rochester report by the A.P. He said he thought the results desired could be achieved best by combining consolidation and coordination.



Insecticide  
Progress

The Farmer's Digest (February) contains a condensation (from Texas Farming and Citriculture) of an article on insecticide progress, by C. C. McDonnell, in charge, insecticide division, Food and Drug Administration. The concluding paragraph says: "The war against the insects has become a world-wide movement. People are beginning to realize that an adequate supply of food, both vegetable and animal, would be impossible without the use of insecticides and fungicides. In this fight our Federal Government employs hundreds of government scientists and trained men, who are devoting their lives to this work, and numerous field laboratories are maintained throughout the country. Every state has its corps of expert workers and investigators. Some of our large cities maintain city entomologists, and California has its county entomologists. Practically all of our agricultural colleges and universities, as well as the medical schools, are training men in insect biology; a number of our large manufacturers and oil companies, as well as endowed non-profit institutions, maintain research laboratories manned by trained experts, where extensive research on methods of control of insects and the development of new insecticides are being conducted."

Congress,  
Jan. 26

The Senate continued debate on the relief bill. In the House Mr. Jones of Texas had read and printed in the Record a letter from Secretary Wallace giving the Department's viewpoint on sugar legislation (see next article). Mr. Crawford spoke in opposition to the sugar control program.

Mrs. Rogers of Massachusetts and Mr. Ludlow discussed whether or not the Federal Government should aid in the New England timber salvage work.

The House received a supplemental estimate of appropriation, \$1,500,000 for the Commodity Credit Corporation (H.Doc. 134); ref. to Committee on Appropriations.

The House received a letter from the Secretary of Agriculture transmitting a draft of a proposed bill to provide an adequate seed supply for Hawaii in time of emergency; ref. to Committee on Agriculture.

The House adjourned until Monday, January 30.

Items in Appendix: speech of Mr. Patman in the House, January 24, favoring his bill (H.R. 1) providing for taxation of chain stores; letter from Mr. Randolph to Col. Fechner favoring legislation to make the Civilian Conservation Corps permanent; address by Mr. Carlson before the Farmers National Equity Union on the farm problem; extension of remarks of Mr. Voorhis of California, Government Credit Agencies--Bonds and Interest Rates.

(Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Secretary on  
Sugar Control

Sugar beet processing companies have benefitted by the sugar control program, Secretary of Agriculture Wallace said in a letter to Chairman Jones of the House Agriculture Committee. "The net income of the five major sugar beet processing companies, representing about 75 percent of the total sugar beet production



in the United States, expressed as a percentage of their net worth averaged over over 9 percent for the five-year period of the sugar program, 1934-38, as compared with a loss of 4.2 percent in 1932 and 1.9 percent in 1933," the Secretary said. "For the year 1937, primarily as a result of the invalidation of the sugar processing tax, the net income reached 12.47 percent. Under the somewhat adverse conditions of decreased general purchasing power of consumers in 1938 and greatly increased sugar beet and sugar cane production during the years between invalidation of crop adjustment in January 1936, and resumption thereof under the new sugar act, a reduction in net income for the fiscal year ended in the spring of 1939 may be anticipated." (Wall Street Journal.)

#### Graded Eggs

#### Profitable

"It is profitable for a producer of high quality eggs to sell them on a graded basis, but it is questionable whether producers of low quality eggs can sell them profitably on such a basis, according to results of a survey made recently by the Maryland Experiment Station and the State Department of Markets," says the Maryland Farmer (January). "A study was made of 15 egg producers in Baltimore and Harford Counties who sold their eggs to a prominent egg dealer in Baltimore on a U.S. Government graded basis, and 15 producers who sold their eggs indiscriminately to hucksters, retailers, wholesalers, etc. This study continued from November 1, 1936, to October 31, 1937. It was found that the price received for eggs sold on a graded basis was not influenced by the volume of eggs shipped as much as was the price of eggs sold on a non-graded basis. The results show also that size as well as quality influences the price producers receive for eggs..."

#### Scientific

#### Land Use

Herbert C. Hanson, Director, North Dakota Experiment Station, is author of "Check-Areas as Controls in Land Use" in the Scientific Monthly (February). He says in conclusion: "Scientific land use requires as careful planning as is humanly possible. The plans should be thoroughly studied from all angles. All sources should be tapped for relevant data. Much land planning is unavoidably experimental. The recent emphasis on design and interpretation in biological experiments applies with even greater weight to work in land use. An important source of basic information, that has been neglected in the past, is land in natural condition used as checks, controls or standards by which land may be measured. Planning, if it is to be as serviceable to humanity as possible, must provide these check areas, even though land in original condition is no longer available. Carefully selected tracts must be set aside as soon as possible in each of the natural land-use areas of the United States by the various state and federal agencies concerned with land-use problems. The Forest Service and National Park Service have taken the lead; other federal and state agencies must follow if land utilization is to be based as fully as possible upon science."



## Cotton Wraps

The Atlanta Constitution (January 17) reports that for Bales . the Georgia Department of Agriculture is promoting a campaign to have Georgia manufacturers and ginnerers wrap baled cotton in cotton bagging. "Use of cotton bagging as a wrapping material in place of the jute now in use would require approximately 100,000 bales of Georgia cotton annually," Columbus Roberts, commissioner of agriculture, declared recently. "While this type of bagging is an innovation in the field of wrapping materials it already has proved to be equal to any other bagging for the purpose." Roberts pointed out that widespread use of cotton bagging would mean added revenue for planters, manufacturers and ginnerers of Georgia. The material would replace the jute bagging now being imported from India, the commissioner said, and, beside proving less expensive, would mean a further use for cotton products. Aside from its use in wrapping cotton bales, the new material can be used as sacks for the shipment of citrus fruits and vegetables from Florida and Texas, and for practically every purpose for which jute bagging is now used, according to the agricultural department official.

Farm Woodlot  
Forestry

"Plans are being made in the United States Department of Agriculture for a Federal farm woodlot forestry program that would mean millions of dollars in direct benefits to farmers in northwest states and even more in gains for conservation," says Alfred D. Stedman in the St. Paul Pioneer Press (January 18). Among the projects are: (1) Plans of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration to increase rates of payment to farmers under the AAA program for planting forest trees and improving woodlot stands as a means of building and conserving soil fertility; (2) Work of the Forest Service in developing a form of farmers' local co-operative association, for the co-operative handling of farm woodlands, and the co-operative milling and marketing of lumber from farm woodlots; (3) Plans of the Soil Conservation Service to stimulate greater use of state soil conservancy districts laws (now on statute books in Minnesota, Wisconsin and both Dakotas) for co-operation of farmers in local programs for protecting lands from destruction by erosion and gullying; (4) The project defined in the Fulmer bill authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to rent or lease wooded farm lands, provide forest management for them, and retain half the proceeds from timber sales to repay part of the government cost...; (5) The 'shelterbelt' project of the Great Plains areas, under which 7,000 miles of tree strips have already been planted, with seedling trees available to plant 4,500 additional miles this year. Farmers in both the Dakotas are taking part in this project...The first step in carrying out such a program would be to devise better ways to encourage farmers to replant denuded woodlots, or start new woodlots if they have none..."

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